



Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and Ministry of Public Works and Transport

Lao Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)

Prepared by:

Environment Protection Fund Office

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADWLE Association Development Women Legal Education

BKX Bolikhamxay

CERC Contingent Emergency Response

COC Code of Conduct

COVID19 Coronavirus 2019

DCC Department of Climate Change

DEPP Department of Energy Policy and Planning

DHUP Department of Housing and Urban Planning

DOH Department of Health

DONRE Department of Natural Resource and Environment

DNEI Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Inspection

DPF Department of Planning and Finance

DWR Department of Water Resources

ECCDA Environment Conservation and Community Development

Association

EDPD Environmental Research and Disaster Prevention Division

EGEF Ethnic Group Engagement Framework

EPF Environmental Protection Fund

EPFO Environmental Protection Fund Office

ESCP Environment and Social Commitment Plan

ESCOP Environmental and Social Code of Practice

ESIA Environment and Social Impact Assessment

ESMF Environmental and Social Management Framework

ESMP Environmental and Social Management Plan

EWMP Environmental and Waste Management Project

FGD Focused Group Discussion

FS Feasibility Study

GAP Gender Action Plan

GBV Gender Based Violence

GCB Green Clean and Beautiful Lao PDR

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GDA Gender and Development Association

GDDI Global Green Growth Institute

GRM Grievance Redress Mechanism

JICA Japan International Cooperation Agency

KEXIM Export-Import Bank of Korea

KHM Khammouane

LEMGP Lao Environmental Matching Grant Program

LFND Lao Front for National Development

LWU Lao Women's Union

MEM Ministry of Energy and Mines

MLSW Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare

MOES Ministry of Education and Sports

MOH Ministry of Health

MONRE Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment

MPI Ministry of Planning and Investment

MPWT Ministry of Public Works and Transport

NCAW National Commission for the Advancement of Women

NPAP National Plastic Actions Plan

NRERI Natural Resources and Research Institute

ODX Oudomxay

OHS Occupational Health and Safety

PIU Project Implementation Unit

PMU Project Management Unit

PPE Personal Protective Equipment

Pre-FS Pre-Feasibility Study

Pre-ESIA Preliminary Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

PTI Public Works and Transport Institute

RAP Resettlement Actin Plan

RPF Resettlement Policy Framework

SEA/SH Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment

SEP Stakeholder Engagement Plan

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SIA Social Impact Assessment

SMEB Small-and Medium-size Enterprises and Businesses

SMP Social Management Plan

SVK Savannakheth

TA Technical Assistance

UDAA Vientiane Urban Development Authority

UNEP United National Environment Programme

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

VAC Violence Against Children

VCOMS Vientiane City Office for Management and Service

VUDA Vientiane Urban Development Authority

VTC Vientiane Capital

VTP Vientiane Province

WB World Bank

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) includes the process of engaging stakeholders for a clear purpose to achieve agreed outcomes. It is now also recognized as a fundamental accountability mechanism since it obliges an organization to involve stakeholders in identifying and understanding of the specific program/project and responding to issues and concerns raised by the stakeholders for decisions, actions, and hence improving program/project performance.

The Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) (the **Recipient**) will implement the Environmental and Waste Management Project (EWMP) ("the **Project**"), with the involvement of (a) the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) through its EPF (EPF); (b) the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) through the Department of Environment (DOE), the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Inspection (DNEI), the Natural Resources and Research Institute (NRERI), the Department of Climate Change (DCC), the Department of Water Resources (DWR), and the Department of Planning and Finance (DPF); (c) the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM) through the Department of Energy Policy and Planning (DEPP); (d) The Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) through the Department of Planning and Investment (DPI); (e) the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) through the Department of Housing and Urban Planning (DHUP) and the Public Works and Transport Institute (PTI); and (f) the Vientiane Urban Development Authority (VUDA) and the Urban Development Administrative Authorities (UDAAs) of the selected provinces, as set out in the Financing Agreement. The International Development Association has agreed to provide financing (P175996) for the Project, as set out in the referred agreement.

Main development objective of EWMP is to strengthen environmental protection systems, improve municipal solid waste management in selected cities in Lao PDR, and provide immediate and effective response in case of an Eligible Crisis or Emergency. The activities will support policy development and institutional strengthening at the national level to enhance regulatory oversight and planning of the solid waste sector, supporting environmental risk management and climate change actions, and enhance monitoring and regulation of key types of pollution in the country.

At the provincial and district levels, the Project will focus on supporting improved solid waste services and increasing the financial and environmental sustainability of solid waste management operations through technical assistance and investments in infrastructure and equipment. The project will facilitate the creation of models for solid waste management in selected cities that can demonstrate improved and cost-effective performance and serve as inspirations for other cities.

The project will seek to comprehensively support stakeholder collaboration across all aspects of the sector, most notably MONRE, MPWT, EPF, as well as local governments responsible

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for solid waste management.

The project will measure its success by the following indicators:

- (a) Environmental protection system (practices) improved (score)
- (b) Increase coverage of municipal waste collection from households and businesses in Vientiane Capital (percentage)
- (c) Solid waste recycled, composted and/or treated to reduce waste disposal volumes (percentage)
- (d) Net greenhouse emissions reduction (metric tons/year)

(c) Project Components

The project activities will be implemented through the following 5 components :

- Component 1 (C1): Policy Implementation and Capacity Enhancement. This component will strengthen the policies, institutional framework, and capacities of central government agencies (particularly MONRE and MPWT) responsible for various technical and administrative aspects of environmental, pollution, solid waste, and plastics management, including initiating a matching grant mechanism with selected private sector. The activities will be implemented by responsible agencies through the following five subcomponents as presented in Table 1-1:

Table 0-1: C1 Subcomponents (reference: Report No: PAD4795)

Component	Lead Implementing Agency	Total Budget (US\$ millions)
Component 1. Policy Implementation and	MONRE	12.12
Capacity Enhancement (PICE)		12.12
Subcomponent 1A. Policy and capacity support	DOE/DWR-MONRE	
on EIA/IEE/SEA, solid waste management, and		2.72
Toxic and Hazardous Waste (THW)		
Subcomponent 1B. Capacity and Financial	EPF	
support to SMEs on environmental and waste		2.36
management		
Subcomponent 1C. Policy and capacity support	DNEI/NRERI/DWR-	
on ECC compliance and pollution monitoring	MONRE	3.65
framework		
Subcomponent 1D. Policy and Capacity support	DCC-MONRE/ DOP-	
on Climate change: low carbon resilient	MPI	1.5
development		
Subcomponnent1E. Policy and capacity	DOE/DPF-MONRE	1.59
support on plastics policies and legislation		1.37

The Matching Grant (LEMGP): The proposed matching grant activities (called Lao Environmental Matching Grant Program or LEMGP) seeks to initiate active

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engagement with a selected small-and medium-size enterprises and businesses (SMEBs) that can provide resources or practical solutions for solving the most pressing issues related to effective use of natural resources, waste generation, environmental quality, and pollution control challenges taking into account the needs and opportunities for selected SMEBs to continue with their businesses after Covid-19 pandemic and contribute to economic growth toward green growth direction. Eligible applicants include SMEs per the SME law and small/medium size businesses including local authorities and local communities that are committed and capable of planning and implementation of a Green Business Plan (GBP) or Green, Clean, and Beautiful Plan (GCBP) in line with GOL regulations and located in the target/project areas. Total cost for LEMGP is estimated at \$1.5M. With a maximum matching grant of \$100,000 per one PSMEB who can sign a Sub- grant Agreement with EPFO (as suggested by WB), it is expected that 10-15 green plans will be prepared and implemented. The activities to be implemented within 1-2 year time frame.

Component 2 (C2): Integrated Support and Capacity Building for Local Government and Municipalities. This component seeks to address primary constraints to improving sector performance including the technical, organizational, and financial capacity of local governments to efficiently provide solid waste services. This component will support local governments to better prepare for investments under Component 3. The activities will be implemented by responsible agencies through the following three subcomponents as presented in Table 1-2:

Table 0-2: C2 Subcomponents (reference: Report No: PAD4795))

Component	Lead Implementing Agency	Total Budget (US\$ millions)
Component 2. Integrated Support and	MONRE	4.54
Capacity Building for Local Government and Municipalities		4.54
Subcomponent 2A. Support and Capacity	DNEI/NRERI-	
Building for Local Gov't on waste and pollution	MONRE	0.09
data and information systems and waste service		
Subcomponent 2B. GCB and 3R projects +	DOE-MONRE	
capacity building for NPAP/plastic policies		3.92
implementation in targeted districts		
Subcomponent 2C. Support to private-public	TBD	
partnerships and enhancing output-based waste		0.53
service delivery and cost recovery capacity		

Component 3 (C3): Infrastructure investments for solid waste and plastic management. This component will finance waste management and recycling infrastructure investments in Vientiane Capital to improve the effectiveness and

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efficiency of waste and plastics management to enhance services and environmental sustainability in three selected locations in Vientiane Capital including (i) in Naxaythong district for installing a new waste transfer station; (ii) at the Km 16 in Xaysettha district for upgrading a material recovery facilities and support waste collection and transportation equipment; and (iii) at the Km32 (existing landfill) in in Xaysettha district for partial rehabilitation and construction of waste cells and leachate treatment facility, temporary hazardous waste storage facility, waste reception area, upgrading waste recycling facilities and associated facilities. Potentially, investments in riverine plastics collection technologies will be provided under this Component, including support on setting up viable operations and disposal systems and integration into general SWM system. This will be combined with the establishment of plastics pollution monitoring stations and provide citizen science and reporting possibilities for monitoring of impacts. The activities will be implemented by responsible agencies through the following two subcomponents as presented in Table 1-3:

Table 0-3: C3 Subcomponents (reference: Report No: PAD4795)

Component	Lead Implementin g Agency	Total Budget (US\$ millions)
Component 3. Waste and plastics management	MPWT	24.62
Infrastructure Investments	DITID	24.62
The investments will be divided into three locations	DHUP	24.62
strategically selected in Vientiane Capital to maximize		
the waste-to-resource opportunity, minimize the waste		
volume that will be landfilled at Km32, and mitigate the		
negative environmental and social impacts from waste		
management. The three sites are as follows:		
• At Naxaythong district in north-west of		
Vientiane Capital will install a new waste		
transfer station with material recovery facility,		
waste collection and transportation equipment		
with waste transfer function.		
At Km 16 in Xaysettha District, upgrade to a		
material recovery facility and support waste		
collection and transportation equipment.		
• At the current landfill at Km32 will be partially		
rehabilitated to extend the lifetime of the landfill		
and also to install the waste reception area,		
upgrading of waste recycling facility, ensure a		
safe and healthy working environment of		
informal waste pickers, improve the leachate		

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treatment and regulation facility to mitigate the	
direct discharge of leachate to the surrounding	
area and also install the storage for hazardous	
waste to safely store the toxic and hazardous	
materials.	
11.WV\$1.W1&1	

- Component 4: Project coordination and reporting. This component will focus on inter-ministerial coordination, progress reporting, and monitoring and evaluation Strengthening implementation and management capacity will involve support for project management and monitoring and evaluation systems across the implementing agencies at all levels. The activities will be implemented by responsible agencies through the following two subcomponents as presented in Table 1-4:

Table 0-4: C4 Subcomponents (reference: Report No: PAD4795)

Component	Lead Implementing Agency	Total Budget (US\$ millions)
Component 4. Project Coordination and Reporting	EPF	3.81
Subcomponent 4A. Project management and administration	EPF	2.90
Subcomponent 4B. Communication, Engagement, and EPF Capacity building	EPF	0.91

- Component 5. Contingent Emergency Response (CERC). This component is designed to provide swift response in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency, by enabling the GOL to request the World Bank to reallocate project funds to support emergency response and reconstruction.

MONRE agencies will lead the implementation of Components 1 and 2 project activities applying the subproject mechanism of the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) while the EPF Office (EPFO) will lead the implementation of Component 4 and overall project reporting to WB. The project areas for Components 1, 2, and 4 (C124) will be nationwide with some specific areas to be identified during implementation for the matching grant subproject and the activities related to green, clean, and beautiful Lao PDR (GCB); the reduce, recycle, and recover (3R); and/or the National Plastic Action Plan (NPAP) to be implemented under Component 1. Component 3 (C3) will be implemented by MPWT following MPWT procedures applied to an investment project and the selected locations are located in Vientiane Capital comprising (a) existing landfill and waste facilities at kilometer 32 (Km32) in Xaythany district, (b) existing transfer station and waste facilities at Km16 in Xaythany district; and (c) proposed waste facilities in Naxaithong district. The project activities as well as specific locations will be identified and/or confirmed during implementation of the project.

Furthermore, this SEP outlines the ways in which EPF; MPWT, MONRE other project implementing agencies, consultants and contractors will communicate with stakeholders,

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mechanism by which people can raise their concerns, and how the raised concerns will be acted and responded upon. These stakeholders identified are those either affected and/or interested parties. The identification of stakeholders under the EWMP will be based on (i) their roles and responsibilities; and possible influence/interest on the program. Particular attention will be given individuals at risk of being excluded from the subproject activities. Stakeholder groups include: (a) those directly affected: waste collectors and pickers and their families (b) central government agencies including EPF, MONRE, MPWT, and Ministry of Health, (c) local government administrations at provincial, district and village level, (d) individuals and communities located nearby project investments, (e)mass organisations and civil society organizations working with women, youth, ethnic groups and other related sectors - (f) private sector actors including waste management companies, waste recycling companies, wastepickers representatives, (g) academics, environmental organizations, international NGOs and other development partners working on waste management, environment and related issues. Vulnerable individuals or Disadvantaged groups identified include, children, women, ethnic groups, people with disabilities, the elderly and youth. The information disclosure and consultations with stakeholders will be conducted through a range of techniques including focus group discussion (based on age, gender and occupation), interviews, key informants, and e-mails. A verbal translation will be provided into ethnic language in communities where ethnic people are affected.

The information disclosure and consultations with stakeholders will be conducted through a range of techniques including focus group discussion (based on age, gender and occupation), interviews, key informants, and e-mails. A verbal translation will be provided into ethnic language in communities where ethnic people are affected.

Consultation may take the form of face-to-face meetings. Official letters will be submitted at least two weeks before the scheduled consultations to inform affected and interested stakeholders of the purpose of the consultation meetings. Face to face meetings are preferred, however, due to preventive measures related to Covid19, consultation meetings may be conducted and organized using virtual connection platforms (i.e. Zoom, Webex, and other available applications)

Further, project-specific information (e.g., ESMF, RPF, EGEF, etc.), will be disclosed in EPF; MONRE and MPWT website as well as World Bank's external website. Key information will be disclosed in both English and Lao language or by photo or drawing /print (e.g. booklet or flyers) formats. for ethnic groups which can be easily understandable format. **Error! Reference source not found.** E&S instruments were disclosed during the following dates:

Table 1 ESF Disclosure Timeline

Item	Actions	Timeline	Responsible
1.	Disclose the revised draft ESMF and Pre-ESIA on EPF and MPWT website	16 November 2022	EPF and MPWT

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2.	National	Stakeholder	30 November 2022	EPF and MPWT
	Consultation:			
3.	Re-disclosure of instruments at EPF) website after feedbacks		2 nd week of December 2022	EPF and MPWT

Comments from stakeholders will be received by the project in written and oral forms (using suggestion boxes, engagement with community leaders, through public meetings, interviews, email, etc). The PMUs and PIU with the support from E&S Consultants from EPF will review stakeholders' comments and send back the final decision and a summary of how comments were taken into account. There will be establishment of GRM Committees at Village, District and Central levels as well as at the Project Management Unit of EPF; Project Management Unit of MPWT and Project Implementation Unit of other ministries. For workers hired by contractors, the contractors will be required to produce their GRM procedure as a prerequisite for tender which at a minimum conform to these requirements.

This SEP document offers a strategy and implementation plan for engaging stakeholders from the beginning of the project up to completion. SEP is a live document that will be revisited and updated as required to reflect project developments and new stakeholders if any.

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1 Introduction/Project Description

- 1. Main development objective of EWMP is to strengthen environmental protection systems, improve municipal solid waste management in selected cities in Lao PDR, and provide immediate and effective response in case of an Eligible Crisis or Emergency. The activities will support policy development and institutional strengthening at the national level to enhance regulatory oversight and planning of the solid waste sector, supporting environmental risk management and climate change actions, and enhance monitoring and regulation of key types of pollution in the country.
- 2. At the provincial and district levels, the Project will focus on supporting improved solid waste services and increasing the financial and environmental sustainability of solid waste management operations through technical assistance and investments in infrastructure and equipment. The project will facilitate the creation of models for solid waste management in selected cities that can demonstrate improved and cost-effective performance and serve as inspirations for other cities.
- 3. The project will seek to comprehensively support stakeholder collaboration across all aspects of the sector, most notably MONRE, MPWT, EPF, as well as local governments responsible for solid waste management.
- 4. The project will measure its success by the following indicators:
 - a) Environmental protection system (practices) improved (score)
 - b) Increase coverage of municipal waste collection from households and businesses in Vientiane Capital (percentage)
 - c) Solid waste recycled, composted and/or treated to reduce waste disposal volumes (percentage)
 - d) Net greenhouse emissions reduction (metric tons/year)

Description of Components are as follows:

- 5. The project activities will be implemented through the following 5 components:
 - ❖ Component 1 (C1): Policy Implementation and Capacity Enhancement. This component will strengthen the policies, institutional framework, and capacities of central government agencies (particularly MONRE and MPWT) responsible for various technical and administrative aspects of environmental, pollution, solid waste, and plastics management, including initiating a matching grant mechanism with selected private sector. The activities will be implemented by responsible agencies through the following five subcomponents as presented in Table 1-1

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Table 1-1: C1 Subcomponents (reference: Report No: PAD4795)

Component	Lead Implementing	Total Budget
	Agency	(US\$ millions)
Component 1. Policy Implementation and	MONRE	12.12
Capacity Enhancement (PICE)		
Subcomponent 1A. Policy and capacity support	DOE/DWR-MONRE	2.72
on EIA/IEE/SEA, solid waste management, and		
Toxic and Hazardous Waste (THW)		
Subcomponent 1B. Capacity and Financial	EPF	2.36
support to SMEs on environmental and waste		
management		
Subcomponent 1C. Policy and capacity support	DNEI/NRERI/DWR-	3.65
on ECC compliance and pollution monitoring	MONRE	
framework		
Subcomponent 1D. Policy and Capacity support	DCC-MONRE/ DOP-	1.5
on Climate change: low carbon resilient	MPI	
development		
Subcompomnent1E. Policy and capacity	DOE/DPF-MONRE	1.59
support on plastics policies and legislation		

- The Matching Grant (LEMGP): The proposed matching grant activities (called Lao Environmental Matching Grant Program or LEMGP) seeks to initiate active engagement with a selected small-and medium-size enterprises and businesses (SMEBs) that can provide resources or practical solutions for solving the most pressing issues related to effective use of natural resources, waste generation, environmental quality, and pollution control challenges taking into account the needs and opportunities for selected SMEBs to continue with their businesses after Covid-19 pandemic and contribute to economic growth toward green growth direction. Eligible applicants include SMEs per the SME law and small/medium size businesses including local authorities and local communities that are committed and capable of planning and implementation of a Green Business Plan (GBP) or Green, Clean, and Beautiful Plan (GCBP) in line with GOL regulations and located in the target/project areas. Total cost for LEMGP is estimated at \$1.5M. With a maximum matching grant of \$100,000 per one PSMEB who can sign a Sub- grant Agreement with EPFO (as suggested by WB), it is expected that 10-15 green plans will be prepared and implemented. The activities to be implemented within 1-2 year time frame.
- Component 2 (C2): Integrated Support and Capacity Building for Local Government and Municipalities. This component seeks to address primary constraints to improving sector performance including the technical, organizational, and financial capacity of

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local governments to efficiently provide solid waste services. This component will support local governments to better prepare for investments under Component 3. The activities will be implemented by responsible agencies through the following three subcomponents as presented in Table 1-2

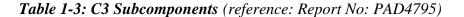
Table 1-2: C2 Subcomponents (reference: Report No: PAD4795)

Component	Lead Implementing Agency	Total Budget (US\$ millions)
Component 2. Integrated Support and	MONRE	4.54
Capacity Building for Local Government and		
Municipalities		
Subcomponent 2A. Support and Capacity	DNEI/NRERI-	0.09
Building for Local Gov't on waste and pollution	MONRE	
data and information systems and waste service		
Subcomponent 2B. GCB and 3R projects +	DOE-MONRE	3.92
capacity building for NPAP/plastic policies		
implementation in targeted districts		
Subcomponent 2C. Support to private-public	TBD	0.53
partnerships and enhancing output-based waste		
service delivery and cost recovery capacity		

❖ Component 3 (C3): Infrastructure investments for solid waste and plastic management. This component will finance waste management and recycling infrastructure investments in Vientiane Capital to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of waste and plastics management to enhance services and environmental sustainability in three selected locations in Vientiane Capital including (i) in Naxaythong district for installing a new waste transfer station; (ii) at the Km 16 in Xaysettha district for upgrading a material recovery facilities and support waste collection and transportation equipment; and (iii) at the Km32 (existing landfill) in in Xaysettha district for partial rehabilitation and construction of waste cells and leachate treatment facility, temporary hazardous waste storage facility, waste reception area, upgrading waste recycling facilities and associated facilities. Potentially, investments in riverine plastics collection technologies will be provided under this Component, including support on setting up viable operations and disposal systems and integration into general SWM system. This will be combined with the establishment of plastics pollution monitoring stations and provide citizen science and reporting possibilities for monitoring of impacts. The activities will be implemented by responsible agencies through the following two subcomponents as presented in Table 1-3

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Component	Lead Implementing	Total Budget (US\$ millions)
	Agency	(CD\$ minons)
Component 3. Waste and plastics management	MPWT	24.62
Infrastructure Investments		
The investments will be divided into three locations strategically selected in Vientiane Capital to	DHUP	24.62
maximize the waste-to-resource opportunity,		
minimize the waste volume that will be landfilled at		
Km32, and mitigate the negative environmental and		
social impacts from waste management. The three		
sites are as follows:		
At Naxaythong district in north-west of		
Vientiane Capital will install a new waste		
transfer station with material recovery facility,		
waste collection and transportation equipment		
with waste transfer function.		
• At Km 16 in Xaysettha District, upgrade to a		
material recovery facility and support waste		
collection and transportation equipment.		
• At the current landfill at Km32 will be partially		
rehabilitated to extend the lifetime of the		
landfill and also to install the waste reception		
area, upgrading of waste recycling facility,		
ensure a safe and healthy working		
environment of informal waste pickers,		
improve the leachate treatment and regulation		
facility to mitigate the direct discharge of		
leachate to the surrounding area and also		
install the storage for hazardous waste to safely		
store the toxic and hazardous materials.		

❖ Component 4: Project coordination and reporting. This component will focus on inter-ministerial coordination, progress reporting, and monitoring and evaluation Strengthening implementation and management capacity will involve support for project management and monitoring and evaluation systems across the implementing agencies at all levels. The activities will be implemented by responsible agencies through the following two subcomponents as presented in Table 1-4

Table 1-4: C4 Subcomponents (reference: WB aide memoire July 2022 mission)

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Component	Lead Implementing	Total Budget (US\$ millions)
	Agency	
Component 4. Project Coordination and Reporting	EPF	3.81
Subcomponent 4A. Project management and administration	EPF	2.90
Subcomponent 4B. Communication, Engagement, and EPF Capacity building	EPF	0.91

- Component 5. Contingent Emergency Response (CERC). This component is designed to provide swift response in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency, by enabling the GOL to request the World Bank to reallocate project funds to support emergency response and reconstruction.
- 6. EPF through the implementation of Component 4 by EPF will be responsible for implementation of the ESMF related to Components 1, 2, and 4 while MPWT through DHUP and EDPD/PTI will be responsible for implementation of the ESMF for Component 3 including those mitigation measures identified in the Pre-ESIA and the SMP for Component 3. EPF and DHUP will establish a Project Management Unit (PMU) to be responsible for management of project activities under their responsibilities (see PMUs below).

2 Project Location and Context

- 7. The Environmental Waste Management Project (EWMP) aims to improve environmental management, pollution control, and waste management in selected districts of Lao PDR. It will support policy development and institutional strengthening at the national level to enhance regulatory oversight and planning of the solid waste sector, supporting environmental risk management and climate change actions, and enhance monitoring and regulation of key types of pollution in the country. At the provincial and district levels, the EWMP will focus on supporting improved solid waste services and increasing the financial and environmental sustainability of solid waste management operations through technical assistance and investments in infrastructure and equipment. The Project will facilitate the creation of models for solid waste management in selected cities that can demonstrate improved and cost-effective performance and serve as inspirations for other cities. The project will seek to comprehensively support stakeholder collaboration across all aspects of the sector, most notably MONRE, MPWT, EPF, as well as local governments responsible for solid waste management, and will build the implementation arrangement on the mechanisms proven in other environmental projects in Lao PDR to facilitate high quality implementation, management and oversight of the program, including results monitoring and evaluation.
- 8. Solid waste generation has increased substantially over the years. Sound waste data is missing in the country and is often inconsistent and unverifiable. Waste generation is rapidly increasing in cities and towns due to urbanization, economic growth and changing lifestyles,

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as well as in tourism hotspots which have seen rapidly increasing numbers over the last decade. Nevertheless, waste collection is largely limited to the urban centers but remains at low levels. While no accurate figures exist, it is estimated that in Vientiane city only around 30-50% of the waste generated, and only about 25% of household waste, is collected and transported to the landfill sites. Due to the lack of appropriate collection systems, open burning, household burying, littering along roadsides and rivers, and dumping in vacant lands are widely spread practices in both urban and rural areas.

- 9. Plastics pollution is an increasing concern in the country. The amount of plastic waste is continuously increasing particularly in urban areas and often remains uncollected. In Vientiane, plastics constitute around 12 percent of the total waste stream. In major cities such as Vientiane, Savannakhet, and Pakse, plastic waste is a key factor in blockage of drainage systems causing sudden flooding during rains. In key tourism hotspots such as Luang Prabang or Vang Vieng, widespread plastics littering poses a substantial threat to the touristic value. Lao PDR has seen an almost 10- fold increase in plastic waste imports from 2018 to 2019 due to the recent import regulations by neighboring countries. The quality and recyclability of the waste imports are unknown, and the capacity to cope with the large amounts of plastic waste in Lao PDR is not present.
- 10. Under Component 1, the project activities will be implemented nationwide on the part related to policy, regulations, and technical assistance (TA) while some activities such as those related to the matching grant (C1A) and the National Plastic Actions Plan (NPAP) (C1E) may involve specific areas to be identified during project implementation according to the objectives and scope of the program/plan. However, given limited budget, it is expected that these activities will be conducted in Vientiane Capital (VTC) and nearby provinces such as Vientiane Province (VTP), Bolikhamxay (BKX), Khammouane (KHM), Savannakhet (SVK), and Odomxay (ODX). Under Component 2, the project activities will be conducted in specific areas to be identified during project implementation according to the objective and scope of the Subcomponent activities (C2A, C2B, and C2C). The activities areas will be limited to VTC, VTP, and ODX and brief Environmental and Social (E&S) baseline condition will only be given to these three provinces.
- 11. Component 3 will finance priority low-cost infrastructure to improve effectiveness and efficiency of waste and plastics management in Vientiane Capital (VTC) in Xaythany District and Naxaythong district. In Xaythany district, there are two specific sites: one at the solid waste landfill at KM32 (KM32) and another at the existing waste facilities at Km16 (KM16). In Naxaythong, specific sites and activities are being considered. More details can be found in Pre-ESIA and SIA-SMP.

2.1 Brief Description of the KM32 under C3

12. The existing landfill of Vientiane Capital is located in Ban Naphasouk in Xaythany District at KM32 on Road 13 south, with a 2.5 km access road (Figure 3-1). It has a total area of 100 hectares. However, 50 hectares on the north side were granted as a 50-year concession to Khouanmouang Group Company, the concessioner also plans to make a waste complex

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management system that included recyclable waste plants and RDF plants in the future. There are two recyclable plants, but only one plant is active. A wire fence and small dike was completed around some parts of the site on the west and in some parts on the north. The fence was broken in many sections. Waste trucks and tractors can enter many areas of the landfill site; however, there is only one official entrance and exit gate. During the field visit and data collection, which was carried out in 13-21 February 2022, waste cells were burning, and temporary dumping was carried out in the Khouanmouang Group concession area. The fire destroyed the solar electricity poles and lights. Many waste cells owned by VCOM are already full of the solid waste. The dumping cells were designed around 20x20 meters and approximately 2 meters deep. There are two sludge ponds in the landfill areas on the Northwest and south-west. There is no leachate treatment facility for the landfill.

2.2 Brief Description of the KM16 under C3

- 13. The existing waste transfer station is one of the supporting waste management facilities under the Laos Pilot Program for Narrowing the Development Gap towards ASEAN Integration, Environmental Management Component (LPPE). This program was implemented by JICA and the ASEAN Secretariat in November 2014. The IEE was prepared by the VUDAA and the Lao Environmental Engineering Company in December 2013. The information provided in this section are from the IEE Report (2013).
- 14. The site is accessible from the 450-highway through the access road that is divided into two sections, a 1 km unpaved and 0.8 km concrete access road. There are some households and shops along the first section of the access road and a few households, plantations and agricultural land along both sides of the second section of the access road.
- 15. This transfer station was built in 2015 with technical and financial support from JICA, it was commissioned in January 2016. The 2ha waste transfer station is located in Ban Nahai, Xaythani district, Ventiance capital. According to GGI report on Solid Waste Management In Vientiane of Lao PDR, The transfer station only functions as an unloading and reloading point, and no compaction or additional sorting occurs at this stage. The transfer station project has enabled VCOMS to significantly improve its waste collection fleet.

2.3 Summary Profile of the Naxaythong Site under C3

- 16. Naxaythong District is located in the middle of the north part of Vientiane Capital. It has a total area of 1,131 km2. To the north, there is Phonhong District in Vientiane Province. To the south, there are the adjacent Sikhodthabong and Chanthabouly Districts. To the east, there is the adjacent Xaythany District. To the west, there is the adjacent Sangthong District.
- 17. Naxaythong District has a total of 88,298 people, including 44,412 women, across 18,557 households in 54 villages (Vientiane capital Statistics Center; as of June 2021). The population density is 76 persons per km2. Currently, Naxaythong has no landfill, transfer station or Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) plant. Naxaythong Town is located around 50 km from the landfill in Xaythani District, and around 32 KM from the transfer station. The introduction of a transfer station with an RDF plant will improve economic sustainability and the

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environmental transportation of solid waste in Naxaythong District because smaller volumes of waste will require transportation to landfill at Km32 Xaythani.

18. Population density is 76 persons per km2. Currently, Naxaythong has no landfill, transfer station or Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) plant. Naxaythong Town is located around 50 km from the landfill in Xaythani District, and around 32 KM from the transfer station. The introduction of a transfer station with an RDF plant will improve economic sustainability and the environmental transportation of solid waste in Naxaythong District because smaller volumes of waste will require transportation to landfill at Km32 Xaythani.

2.4 Brief Description of Matching Grants

- 19. The Matching Grant (LEMGP): The proposed matching grant activities (called Lao Environmental Matching Grant Program or LEMGP) seeks to initiate active engagement with a selected small-and medium-size enterprises and businesses (SMEBs) that can provide resources or practical solutions for solving the most pressing issues related to effective use of natural resources, waste generation, environmental quality, and pollution control challenges taking into account the needs and opportunities for selected SMEBs to continue with their businesses after Covid-19 pandemic and contribute to economic growth toward green growth direction.
- 20. MONRE agencies will lead the implementation of Components 1 and 2 project activities applying the subproject mechanism of the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) while the EPF Office (EPFO) will lead the implementation of Component 4 and overall project reporting to WB. The project areas for Components 1, 2, and 4 (C124) will be nationwide with some specific areas to be identified during implementation for the matching grant subproject and the activities related to green, clean, and beautiful Lao PDR (GCB); the reduce, recycle, and recover (3R); and/or the National Plastic Action Plan (NPAP) to be implemented under Component 1. Component 3 (C3) will be implemented by MPWT following MPWT procedures applied to an investment project and the selected locations are located in Vientiane Capital comprising (a) existing landfill and waste facilities at kilometer 32 (Km32) in Xaythany district, (b) existing transfer station and waste facilities at Km16 in Xaythany district; and (c) proposed waste facilities in Naxaithong district. The project activities as well as specific locations will be identified and/or confirmed during implementation of the project.
- 21. The EWM project will benefit many residents who live in towns as waste collection coverage will be extended, and the quality of waste collection will be improved. These improvements will make cities and towns cleaner, reduce odors from waste, reduce the amount of waste illegally dumped along roads or free land, and reduce the possibility of landfill fires.
- 22. The livelihoods of waste pickers and collectors will be improved, in the mean times, they will work in the health and safety standard of WB requirements. EWMP will create some formal employment opportunities for waste pickers and collectors in the waste management sector, and also during the construction phase. Related risks include the risk of: (i) employment discrimination, (ii) labour related disputes, (iv) Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

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and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH), (v) child labour (waste pickers); (vi) accidents and injuries, exposure to toxic waste component/ air pollution (dust and bio-aerosols, odour nuisances, and vehicle emissions/noise and vibration/ pathogens and vectors in waste collection, transport and management processes.

23. The Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF) provides more extensive details as to the socioeconomic and environmental conditions of the project area, and should be read in conjunction with this SEP. The projects activities as defined in Section 1 as those will be the focus of this SEP.

3 Purpose of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)

- 24. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is to define a program for stakeholder engagement, including public information disclosure and consultation, throughout the entire project cycle. The SEP outlines the ways in which EWMP will communicate with stakeholders and includes a mechanism by which stakeholders can contribute to project design, project acceptance, disclosure of E&S risks and impacts, raise concerns, provide feedback, or make complaints about EWMP and any activities related to the project.
- 25. The involvement of the local population is essential to the success of the project(s) in order to ensure smooth collaboration between project staff and local communities and to minimize and mitigate environmental and social risks related to the proposed project activities.
- 26. The Key Objectives of the SEP can be summarized as follows:
 - Provide guidance for stakeholder engagement based on the ESS10;
 - Identify key stakeholders that are affected, and/or able to influence the Project and its activities;
 - Identify the most effective methods, timing and structures through which to share project information, and to ensure regular, accessible, transparent and appropriate consultation;
 - Develops a stakeholders engagement process that provides stakeholders with an opportunity to participate in project planning and design;
 - Establish formal grievance redressal mechanisms;
 - Define roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the SEP;
 - Define reporting and monitoring measures to ensure the effectiveness of the SEP and periodical reviews and reporting of the SEP based on findings.

4 Stakeholder identification and analysis

27. The EWM project is expected to involve diverse groups of stakeholders from national to village levels, including local communities, government line agencies, mass organizations and the private sector. During ESMF and SIA-SMP preparation, affected and interested parties were identified and validated with a number of stakeholders. The SEP is a living document

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and, it should be consulted routinely and refined once further assessments – such as the forthcoming full ESIA – are undertaken, as well as during project implementation, to ensure all stakeholders are identified and appropriately engaged.

- 28. At this stage of project preparation, three broad categories of stakeholders are identified:
 - **Affected parties,** who are those impacted by the project positively or negatively.
 - Government Agencies who are responsible for project implementation
 - **Interested parties,** who are those not impacted by the project but may be interested in the Project outcomes and/or may have an influence on the project.

4.1 Affected parties

- 29. Directly affected stakeholders include the following:
 - a. Local communities and residential households along or within the existing landfill areas:
 - b. Waste collectors and waste pickers
 - c. Landowners of proposed landfill sites and associated facilities
 - d. Informal and formal waste segregators and waste collectors at the landfill site;
 - e. Private investors (e.g., waste recycling or transportation companies, business,)
 - f. Land users where the landfill sites located;
 - g. Schools, health centers and cultural or religious centers that are located nearby the landfill sites or located nearby the matching grant activities and may be impacted by construction disturbances or by land acquisition;
 - h. Ethnic peoples who may have collective attachment to the project area;
 - i. Disadvantaged/vulnerable individuals/groups (further defined in 4.2, paragraph 17);
 - j. Local communities living in project areas for the matching grants activities;
 - k. Sources of waste generation: communities, households, public buildings, markets, hotels, small businesses; and
 - Government staff involved in project management and coordination, benefitting from the capacity building and working on solid waste management related activities.

4.2 Interested parties

30. Relevant government departments, NGOs and CSOs, and service providers at the national, provincial and district levels, involved in issues of environment, investment, development, research, data generation and education, including:

4.2.1. Government Institutions

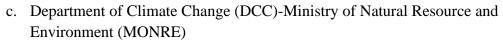
- a. Department of Planning and Investment (DPI)-Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)
- b. Department of Health (DOH)-Ministry of Health (MOH);

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- d. Department of Housing and Urban Planning (DHUP) Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT)
- e. Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Inspection (DNEI)-MONRE
- f. Department of Environment (DOE) MONRE
- g. Department of Planning and Finance (DPF)-MONRE
- h. Department of Water Resources (DWR)-MONRE
- i. Natural Resources and Environmental Research Institute (NREI)-MONRE
- j. Environmental Research and Disaster Prevention Division (EDPD)/Public Works and Transport Institute (PTI)
- k. Department of Energy Policy and Planning (DEPP)- Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM)
- 1. Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW)
- m. Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES)
- n. Lao Front for National Development (LFND): Ethnicity issues.
- o. Lao Women's Union (LWU): Women issues.
- p. The National Commission for the Advancement of Women (NCAW) (GBV focus)
- q. National University of Laos (NUOL).

4.2.2. NGOs/CSOs working on ethnic groups, children and human trafficking

- 1) Gender and Development Association (GDA) (Local NGO);
- 2) Save the Children International (International NGO);
- 3) CARE International (International NGO);
- 4) Association Development Women Legal Education (ADWLE)
- 5) CSOs on waste management

4.2.3. Organizations working on SEA/SH

Governmental:

- a. The National Commission for the Advancement of Women (NCAW)
- b. The Ministry of Health
- c. The Supreme Public Prosecutor and the Supreme People's Court
- d. The National Steering Committee on Anti Human Trafficking
- e. Lao Women Union (LWU)

NGOs:

- a. GRET International
- b. CARE International
- c. Save the Children International
- d. Gender and Development Association (GDA) (Local NGO)

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e. Environment Conservation and Community Development Association" (ECCDA)

4.2.4. International Organisations and Development partners

- 1) World Bank (WB);
- 2) Export-Import Bank of Korea (KEXIM)
- 3) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- 4) Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
- 5) United National Environment Programme (UNEP)
- 6) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

4.2.5. Waste Collection Operators

In Vientiane Capital:

Public waste collecting units:

1) Waste Collecting Service Unit of VCOMS.

Private waste collecting companies:

- 1) Chanthabuly Cleaning Company.
- 2) Hadxayfong SKD Cleaning Company.
- 3) Xaysettha Service Centre Company.

Intermediate Treatment (Recovery) Facility/Equipment:

- 4) Vientiane Waste Management (VWM)
- 31. Disadvantaged/vulnerable individuals or groups includes 1) households below the Lao poverty line of \$3.20 per day1, 2) households headed by elderly with no means of support; (3) female headed households, especially those below the poverty level; (4) households with a disabled member; and (5) Ethnic minority groups facing language, cultural or other barriers to participation in the project.
- 32. These people/groups are disadvantaged/vulnerable due to their potentially significantly lower ability to access and/or understand information about the project and its impacts compared to other groups due to physical, social or cultural constraints.
- 33. These categories of people will be given particular attention through targeted methods that will enable information sharing and understanding of the nature of project activities and the anticipated positive and potential negative impacts of the project as well as their expectations. Specific meetings and focus groups as well as individual household visits with these groups of people with specific and tailored messages will be used in consideration of their existing challenges. This will include both the sharing of information as well as the

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¹ data.worldbank.org. World Bank. Retrieved 14 September 2019



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gathering of information. So, for instance, impact assessment will ensure specific targeting of these groups to understand their specific needs and that risk assessment and mitigation take these into account. Information sharing activities will also ensure these groups receive information in an appropriate manner and are able to provide feedback.

- 34. The population in the Xaythany District is composed of ethnic groups from four main ethno-linguistic families: LaoTai, Mon-Khmer, Sino-Tibetan, and Hmong-Iumien. In Xaythany District, there are 132 temples, 12 churches, 539 monks, 698 novices, and 38 nuns. Of the population in the district, 90.6%, 7.2%, and 2.2% are Buddhist, animist, or Christian, respectively.
- 35. Other considerations also need to be taken into account, such as choosing accessible venues for events; having small, focused meetings where vulnerable stakeholders are more comfortable asking questions or raising concerns, etc. Interested stakeholders, especially organizations active in the project area which work with vulnerable people/groups (who may be more aware the best ways to engage various vulnerable groups), should be consulted and may be contacted for assistance in engaging with vulnerable groups.

4.3 Stakeholder Analysis; Needs and Methods of Stakeholder Engagement

36. A summary of the specific needs and methods for stakeholder engagement is provided in Table 4-1.

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Table 4-1: Summary of needs and methods for stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder	Characteristics	Interest or Concern	Proposed Strategies			
Affected Stakeholde	Affected Stakeholders					
Affected Stakeholde Local residents in the vicinity of the proposed Construction of waste reception area and upgrade of recycling facility at Waste management community center (KM32 Landfill) and Construction of material recovery facility and RDF production facility and upgrade of composting facility at Km16	The communities residents, schools and small businesses where waste transport vehicles pass by and communities surrounding the waste collection, transfer and disposal facilities.	Concerns about construction-related concerns such as dust, noise and traffic, including speeding (post-construction), concerns about Covid transmission, worker's camp and/or labour influx, etc. Concerns about the spillage of waste during trucks passing-by the roads	Conduct consultation and FGDs at the concept stage to understand their views, expectations and concerns. Stakeholders will be engaged to identify potential project risks/impacts as well as mitigation measures as part of the ESIA. Will be consulted in village-level consultations to introduce the project as well as to discuss and disclose the draft Environment and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and any other relevant plans including a special focus on gender issues, jobs and the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). Will be closely informed before and during civil works so they know the			

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Stakeholder	Characteristics	Interest or Concern	Proposed Strategies
			trainings, such as gender and road safety.
			Women may need to be consulted individually, in particular regarding Gender Based Violence (GBV) risks. A written IEC materials, to make sure can reach women in the best way possible, particularly if they are directly impacted by the project (such as land acquisition or other direct impacts).
			Project billboards.
Local residents in the vicinity of the proposed Matching Grants activity	The communities residents, schools and small businesses surrounding the proposed subprojects for the Matching Grants	Concerns about construction-related concerns such as dust, noise and traffic, including speeding (post-construction), concerns about Covid transmission, worker's camp and/or labour influx, etc.	Conduct consultation and FGDs at the concept stage to understand their views, expectations and concerns. Stakeholders will be engaged to identify potential project risks/impacts as well as mitigation measures as part of the ESMP or ESCOP.
		•	Will be consulted in village-level consultations to introduce the project as well as to discuss and disclose the

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Stakeholder	Characteristics	Interest or Concern	Proposed Strategies
			draft Environment and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and any other relevant plans including a special focus on gender issues, jobs and the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM).
			Will be closely informed before and during civil works so they know the timeline. May also included in trainings, such as gender and road safety.
			Women may need to be consulted individually, in particular regarding Gender Based Violence (GBV) risks. A written IEC materials, to make sure can reach women in the best way possible, particularly if they are directly impacted by the project (such as land acquisition or other direct impacts).
			Project billboards.



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Stakeholder	Characteristics	Interest or Concern	Proposed Strategies
Waste pickers and collectors	Waste pickers and collectors currently working at KM32	 Concerns of decrease in income during construction phase Concerns related to possible risks of: (i) employment discrimination, (ii) labour related disputes, (iv) Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH), (v) child labour (waste pickers); (vi) accidents and injuries, exposure to toxic waste component/ air pollution (dust and bio-aerosols, odour nuisances, and vehicle emissions/noise and vibration/ pathogens and vectors in waste collection, transport and management processes 	Provide alternative source of income and livelihood activities (encourage contractors to recruit them as labors during construction phase). Training and hiring waste pickers to work at the new waste management facilities at the km 16 including skills and vocational training on literacy, numeracy, entrepreneurship among others their livelihoods in the waste sector and prevent job loss. Provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) and training on health and safety to improve including; Carefully develop regional landfill zoning for waste transfer station to minimize the impacts on the livelihoods or incomes of the KM32 surrounding landfill. Inform about the GRM

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Stakeholder	Characteristics		Interest or Concern	Proposed Strategies
Local residents near the proposed Installation of pollution monitoring stations (C3 and C2)	Affected Households (AHs) of the location of the stations	•	Concerns about possible land acquisition, OHS measures, Covid transmission Concerns about construction-related concerns such as dust and noise	Will be consulted in village-level consultations to introduce the project as well as to discuss and disclose the Engineering Code of Practice (ECOP) and Resettlement Actin Plan (RAP)
Local residents near the proposed site for new SMEs and Matching Grants (C1B).	Individuals and Affected Households (AHs) for the proposed subprojects	•	To be further defined during the identification of subprojects	Conduct consultation and FGDs at the concept stage to understand their views, expectations and concerns. Stakeholders will be engaged to identify potential project risks/impacts as well as mitigation measures and negative list or non-eligible subprojects. Disclosure of project information. Further consultations during project implementation.

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Stakeholder	Characteristics	Interest or Concern	Proposed Strategies
Disadvantaged/ vulnerable individuals/ groups	Vulnerable households or individuals depending on the waste for their livelihood, and of the site is shifted they would lose their livelihood. Vulnerable groups living in makeshift housing within and along the sanitary landfill in KM32 and KM16.	 Avoid impacts on existing livelihoods Open information, policy informing, timely obtained full compensation, and proper placement; Additional support under special conditions, such as vocational training, employment opportunities and convenience policy in the process of relocation. 	Conduct consultation and FGDs at the concept stage to understand their views, expectations and concerns. Stakeholders will be engaged to identify potential project risks/impacts as well as mitigation measures as part of the ESIA and any other Social Assessment. Disclosure of project information. Further consultations during project implementation.
People or businesses impacted by involuntary land acquisition, whether temporary or permanent, (special provisions made as per RAPs if vulnerable person)	Affected Households (AHs) of the location of the subprojects (to be confirmed during Detailed Design) who will have assets impacted by land acquisition.	As above plus information about the extent of land acquisition, compensation rates, alternative options, livelihood restoration, etc. To be further defined during the ESIA stage when the extent of impacts is known.	As above. Would also be closely consulted before the socioeconomic baseline and Census as part of the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), during the preparation of the RAPs, including defining entitlements and compensation rates. Project Information Booklets to be developed with specific information regarding land acquisition at different stages (detailed measurement, calculation of entitlements, etc.)

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Stakeholder	Characteristics	Interest or Concern	Proposed Strategies
Ethnic Groups	LaoTai, Mon-Khmer, Sino-	To be further defined during the full ESIA stage	To be determined during the full ESIA
consistent with	Tibetan, and Hmong-Iumien	when the extent of impacts is known and	stage and detailed design, guided by
ESS7 (see	ethnic groups currently	screening of ethnic groups take place.	this SEP and the EGEF, and further
guidance in the	woking in the existing landfill		refined based on the Social
ESMF and EGEF)	in Km32.		Assessment part of the Ethnic Group's
			Engagement Plan (EGEP). Based on
	Ethnic groups living within		the guidance in the EGEF it will also
	the proposed location of the		need to be assessed whether Free Prior
	pollution monitoring stations		and Informed Consent (FPIC), based
	and locations of subproject		on WB ESS7, is required and/or
	activities of SME for		desirable in any of the subprojects.
	Matching Grants		
Contractors in	Contractors will be	- Concerns about OHS measures, Covid	Introductory training on staff related
charge of civil	encouraged to hire local	transmission, job opportunities, discrimination,	to Code of Conduct (gender, violence,
works, and their	people for unskilled labor, in	pay, SEA/SH, etc.	children), training on gender, OHS
staff	particular interested women	To be further defined during the ESIA stage	measures. Labor contracts. Posters on
	(likely 15% target)		aspects Code of Conduct. Information
			on the COVID19 health and safety
			protocols
Government	Specific government	- Project outcome	Consultations/meetings before project
authorities	ministries and departments at	- Responsibility for the project, in particular	implementation to inform them of the
responsible for	the national, provincial,	ensuring that the appropriate GOL staff are	project. Ongoing communication,
project activities	district and village level	assigned to the right Project component for	meetings, phone calls, emails and field
(Special attention	Government staff benefitting	their specific role. e.g. Environmental Staff	work between project authorities to
	from the capacity building		ensure everyone is updated on

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Stakeholder	Characteristics	Interest or Concern	Proposed Strategies
to include Village Women's Group	and government staff working for the EWM project.	to supervise environmental component of Project - Ensuring understand the project and E&S commitments and responsibilities, as well as	timelines, objectives, mitigation measures, responsibilities etc. Project billboards; Website; Whatsapp
		 the WB's ESF Capacity building opportunities for implementing agencies including EPFO, MONRE, MPWT, DHUP-DPWT, PONRE and DONRE, local Women's group. 	and emails
Interested Stakehold	ers		
Nearby communities special provisions as necessary for women and children.	People living along the sanitary landfill of KM32 and material recovery facility and RDF production facility in KM16. Special attention to women and children.	- Concerns about construction-related concerns such as dust, noise and traffic, including speeding (post-construction)	Provision of updates to keep updated on project timelines and potential impacts and mitigation measures including GRM. Disclosure of the ESMP in accessible locations, such as village offices and the MONRE and MPWT website.
Government authorities needing to be consulted, or those that may be interested	Specific government ministries and departments at the national, provincial, district and village level that may need to be consulted due to their area of responsibility (for instance health centers or schools).	- Project outcomes, responsibility, training opportunities, project timeline To be further defined during the ESIA stage	Continuous communication and consultation meetings to ensure relevant government groups are updated on timelines, objectives, mitigation measures, responsibilities etc. Disclosure of ESMP and other project documents. Local

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Stakeholder	Characteristics	Interest or Concern	Proposed Strategies
			consultations disclosing RAP and ESMP.
			Project billboards; Website; Whatsapp and emails
NGOs interested in	NGOs with Waste		Meetings and continuous
environment	Management and	To be further defined during the ESIA stage	communications and meetings,
	Environmental protection		including during ESIA, Disclosure of
	projects or activities in the		project information. Local
	subproject sites or areas		consultations. Project billboards.
NGOs interested in	NGOs interested in ensuring	To be further defined during the ESIA stage	Meetings and continuous
gender	benefits to women as well as		communications and meetings,
	dealing with issues relating to		including during ESIA, on Gender
	Gender Based Violence		Action Plan (GAP) and relevant parts
	(GBV); Sexual Exploitation		of the ESMP or other documents.
	and Abuse and Sexual		Disclosure of project information.
	Harassment (SEA/SH)		Local consultations. Posters on gender
			issues.
NGOs working on	If ethnic groups are identified,	To be further defined during the ESIA stage	Consult as part of ESIA and any other
ethnic group issues	NGOs interested in ensuring		Social Assessment. Disclosure of
	benefits to ethnic groups as		project information. Further
	well as protection of these		consultations if ethnic groups are
	groups, in particular issues		identified during project
	relating to land and culture of		implementation.

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Stakeholder	Characteristics	Interest or Concern	Proposed Strategies
	ethnic groups (see Section 3.3)		
Supply Chain	Suppliers of materials for civil works such as cement, food, safety gear, etc. Contractors in charge of civil works, and their staff	Materials needed, requirements for underage labour/forced labour checks (i.e. compliance with LMP/project measures) To be further defined during the Pre-ESIA stage	Suppliers to be informed via phone calls, meetings, emails that goods acquired for construction will need to come from sources with good labor standards and no child or indentured labor.

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5 Stakeholder Engagement Plan

5.1 Purpose and timing of stakeholder engagement plan

- 37. The objectives of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan are to:
 - Offer opportunities for stakeholders to raise their concerns and submit their opinions, to incorporate this into the project when possible, and to provide this feedback to stakeholders.
 - Create avenues for complaints handling and grievance management.
 - Create opportunities for information sharing and disclosure.
 - Foster strong project community relationships.
 - Ensure meaningful consultation and the consideration of stakeholder's expectations and concerns into the implementation arrangements for the programme, including feedback on environmental and social mitigation measures and their implementation.
- 38. In order to achieve this, the Project shall:
 - Provide meaningful information in a format and language that is readily understandable.
 - Provide information in advance of consultation activities when possible.
 - Disseminate information in a manner and location easy for stakeholders to access it.
 - Establish a two-way dialogue that gives the Project and stakeholders the opportunity to exchange views and information, and have issues heard and addressed.
 - Ensure inclusiveness in representation of views, including those of women, the elderly, people living with a disability, ethnic peoples, and other vulnerable people, as necessary.
 - Ensure any obstacles to participation that are identified are removed so that views of different stakeholders can be obtained.
 - Ensure there are clear mechanisms for responding to people's concerns, suggestions, and/or grievances.
 - Incorporate feedback of stakeholders into project design, and report back to stakeholders.
 - Monitor stakeholder engagement activities and include project stakeholders in monitoring to the extent possible.
 - Incorporate stakeholder engagement as part of the Project management responsibilities of the MPWT, and ensure staff, especially the Environment and Social Officers (ESOs) are equipped with specific responsibilities and budget.

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- 39. The Project will engage stakeholders at various stages: during the preliminary impact assessment stage, full ESIA stage, initial design of road improvement, detailed design, prior to civil works commencing and during, and post-civil works. Engagement will vary in each stage of the project life and this SEP will be dynamic and flexible to these changes. This SEP should be read together with other project documents (i.e., ESMF, RPF, EGEF and ESCP).
- 40. There will be several ways to engage with stakeholders and the Project shall choose the most appropriate method depending on the type of stakeholder and the goal of engagement.
- 41. This SEP is a living document and shall be updated as needed. Once consultations have taken place, minutes of meetings and relevant comments from project stakeholders shall be incorporated.

5.2 Disclosure of Information

- 42. Disclosure of information refers to making information accessible and in a manner that is appropriate and understandable to interested and affected stakeholders.
- 43. Project information will be disclosed in both English and Lao language or even local dialects of ethnic groups which can be easily understandable format either photo or drawing /print (e.g. booklet or flyers) formats.
- 44. The guiding principles when disclosing information are for it to be:
 - 1. Transparent
 - 2. Accessible
 - 3. Presented in a straightforward manner
 - 4. Disclosed as early as feasible
 - 5. Used to support consultation activities, and
 - 6. Provided with meaningful and useful information.
- **45.** Disclosure of information is an on-going process of the Project. Type of information to be disclosed will vary between project stages with two key stages before World Bank project appraisal, and during project implementation.

a) Before World Bank Project Appraisal

- 46. Purpose, nature and scale of the Project and its components, including potential environmental and social risks and impacts as ways to enhance project benefits. Project documents to be disclosed will include:
 - Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF)
 - Social Impact Assessment and Social Management Plan (SIA-SMP) including the annexes such as the Labour Management Procedures (LMP); Resettlement Planning Framework (RPF); Ethnic Groups Engagement Framework (EGEF)
 - o Environment and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP)
 - Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)

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b) During project Implementation.

- i. Detailed impacts, mitigation measures and project schedule. Project documents will likely include:
 - a) Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)
 - b) Environment and Social Management Plans (ESMPs)
 - c) Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs)
 - d) Ethnic Groups Engagement Plan (EGEP)
 - e) Updates to the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)
 - f) Implementation Status Reports
- ii. Job opportunities created by the project
- iii. Training on gender, labour rights and health, as appropriate; and
- iv. Monitoring reports.
- 47. Methods used may vary between stakeholders. Main methods of disclosure are presented in **Error! Reference source not found.**

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Table 5-1 Disclosure of Documents

Project Stage	List of Documents	Method of Disclosure	Timetable/ Location	Target Stakeholders	Responsibilities
Prior to World Bank Appraisal	Draft SEP, ESMF, SIA-SMP with annexes EGEF, RPF and the ESC including executive summary of each document in Lao language Disclosed at EPF, MPWT and MONRE Websites. Hard copy and electronic of the draft documents distributed to target stakeholders. Draft SEP, ESMF, SIA-SMP with annexes EGEF, ESCP, RPF, including executive summary of each document		18 November 2022 09 December 2022	Stakeholders Government Staff responsible and interested stakeholders All interested stakeholders	EPF, MPWT and MONRE EPF, MPWT and MONRE
	summary of each document in Lao language Draft SEP, ESMF, SIA-SMP with annexes EGEF, ESCP, RPF, including executive summary of each document in Lao language	Local consultations for stakeholders at district, and village levels.	09 December 2022	Affected stakeholders	EPF, MPWT and MONRE
Project Implementation	Full Feasibility Study/ ESIA	Local consultations. Consultations with Affected People (APs) – those affected by the project and those affected by land acquisition	Starting in 2023	People impacted by the Project.	PMU-EPF, PMU-MPWT' MONRE; PIU and FS/ ESIA Consultant

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Project Stage	List of Documents	Method of Disclosure	Timetable/ Location	Target Stakeholders	Responsibilities
		One-on-one meetings with APs			
	Information about the project and E&S risks and mitigation measures. Detailed RAPs, including information on eligibility, entitlement matrix, timelines, GRM.	Local consultations. Consultations with Project Affected People (PAPs) – those affected by the project and those affected by land acquisition One-on-one meetings with PAPs Project website (include also Final Version of SEP,	Likely, 2023 onwards (post World Bank appraisal)	People impacted by the Project.	PMU-EPF, PMU-MPWT' MONRE; PIU and Consulting Firm
		ESMF, ESCP anSIA-SMP with RPF and EGEF, including feedback from consultations) and sitespecific plans.			
	ES screening forms, expected impacts, and mitigation measures those impacting people's health and safety,	Local consultations Trainings to Contractors Training to workers Public Boards		Affected and interested stakeholders	PMU-EPF, PMU-MPWT' MONRE; PIU and Consulting Firm

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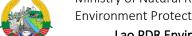
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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Project Stage	List of Documents	Method of Disclosure	Timetable/ Location	Target	Responsibilities
	jobs, civil works (office renovation), staff code of conduct. Key elements in Ethnic Group (e.g., Social Assessment, procedures for FPIC if applicable, EGEP, GRM, etc.) if applicable.	Radio Newspaper Posters Project website Local consultations, including consultations separated by gender and/or age group. Pictorial posters and/or in local language Village announcement	Likely, 2023 onwards.	Ethnic Peoples impacted by the project, with special consideration for women and/or the vulnerable. Also include NGOs working on ethnic	PMU-EPF, PMU-MPWT' MONRE; PIU and Consulting Firm
	Monitoring reports	Trainings (on project process, GRM, gender and/or other issues as relevant) Others as may be desirable by ethnic groups Local consultations and project website	Likely, 2023 onwards.	people and vulnerable groups active in the area. Affected and interested stakeholders and	PMU-EPF, PMU- MPWT' MONRE; PIU and Consulting
				World Bank	Firm

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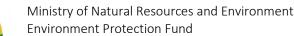
5.3 Proposed strategy for consultation and disclosure

- 48. The project supports a participatory and consultative approach involving meaningful engagement with different populations (ethnic peoples and vulnerable groups women and female/male youth and children, men, the elderly and disabled, landless, and poor, etc.), CSOs (NPAs, CBOs) and other relevant stakeholders. During the Pre-ESIA, consultations and engagement activities were conducted through field visits in the landfill sites and nearby communities wherein the villagers expressed their support to the rehabilitation and improvement of the landfill sites. This Pre-ESIA and ESMF will be disclosed on 18 of November 2022 (including Lao translations of the Executive Summaries) and stakeholder consultations at national and capital levels will be conducted on 09 December 2022 (morning session for national level participants and afternoon session for capital, district and village level participants) to ensure effective communication and coordination with all stakeholders and different populations at national and local levels.
- 49. Consultation is a two-way process of dialogue between the project and its stakeholders. The project consultations will provide opportunities to share information about the project and get feedback, including on issues such as working conditions for contractors, engagement of vulnerable groups, ethnic groups, women, and ways to mitigate potential project risks and impacts.
- 50. Some methods that should be helpful in guiding consultations with local-level stakeholders, particularly affected people, include:
 - (i) Face-to-face consultations should be inclusive of all stakeholder groups for different subproject activities, such as women, elderly, people living with a disability and other vulnerable persons, including breaking it down by gender and age when appropriate.
 - (ii) One-on-one household interviews and focus group discussions will be conducted in a locally/culturally sensitive manner and without external interference or pressure so that interviewees can speak freely.
 - (iii)Notices of meetings/consultations shall be sufficiently notified in advance at prominent locations and information shall be disclosed ahead of time when applicable.
 - (iv)Comments and suggestions received from stakeholders shall be collected and incorporated into this SEP, and other project documents, especially ESMF and EGEF, and in ongoing project implementation as much as possible, and stakeholders shall be made aware how this was done in follow-up meetings/consultations.

5.3.1 At central/national level (to be updated after the consultation and disclosure) (To be completed after the consultation and disclosure meetings)

51. Key Informant Interview was undertaken during 09 to 16 August 2022 with a total of 22 key representatives (9 women) from DOE, DINE, NRERI, PTI, DHUPD, VCOMS, Small B, and Xaythani district hospital (Table 7-1). The PONRE of VTE capital postponed its interview

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but provided written responses to the consultant team. A consultation and disclosure for central and national level were organized __(No. of Participants) ____ for government agencies; __(No. of Participants) International NGOs; CSOs; (No. of Participants) funding agencies and development partners; (No. of Participants) private sector including (No. of Participants) females. The consultation introduced the project and all its components, and informed stakeholders of the preparation of ESF documents, namely the ESMF, ESCP, SIA-SMP with RPF and EGEF and this SEP. The main objective of these documents were discussed, in particular identified potential social and environmental risks and impacts from the project, potential mitigation measures, and the procedures for preparing specific plans (ESMPs, RAPs and EGEPs, if any), including the carrying out of the full ESIA in 2023. Stakeholders were also informed of the proposed project Grievance Redress Mechanism outlined in this SEP. Highlight of questions raised during the consultations on (Date of Consultations), 2022 are included in Annex 2.

5.3.2 At the district and village level

- 52. During preparation of the ESF instruments, Key Informant Interview was undertaken during 09 to 16 August 2022 with a total of 22 key representatives (9 women) from DOE, DINE, NRERI, PTI, DHUPD, VCOMS, Small B, and Xaythani district hospital. The PONRE of VTE capital postponed its interview but provided written responses to the consultant team. The results of KII are summarized in Annex 2a.
- 53. The Focused Group Discussion (FGD) was carried out on 11 August 2022 by the EPF consultants together with technical staffs from EPF, NRERI and PTI in Ban Naphasouk village, the KM32 landfill and Nahai village (KM16 Transfer Station) with a total of 82 participants including 52 females. Most of them are Lao Tai with only 3 participants (waste pickers) are Khmu. The team was divided into two groups such as Group 1 was for Naphasouk Village and Waste Picker at KM32 Landfill; and Group 2 was for Nahai Village. The results are summarized in Annex 2b.
- 54. The summary of FGD is summarized as follows:
 - About 195 HHs with 1,800 people including 482 females (all are Lao Tai) and 90% of them depends on waste picking and selling;
 - There are 264 registered waste pickers (124 females and 140 males) with ages ranging from 14 to 63 years old. Most of them are Lao Tai with only 3 are Khmu.
 - There are OHS Risks including accidents and injuries from excavator excavated the waste without signaling or warning. Surprisingly, they said they did not have health issues (only normal cold and fever) and they did not smell any things from the landfill which was different from information given by the village authorities;
 - Village authorities of Naphasouk village: support the project development as there is a need to improve the waste management in the VTE capital but request the project to help on the villagers (waste pickers) on their livelihood.

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- Both villagers from Naphasouk village (who are considered themselves as seasonal waste pickers) and registered waste pickers do not support to move the waste to other place. If no waste to pick some of them said they will find work at available factories but it will be hard because only husband can go to work at factory and wife has to care kids and family. Salary at factory is low about LAK1.5m which is not enough to send their kids to schools, or they may not be able to send their kids to school;
- Villagers from Naphasouk village do not recommend building toilet and shelter at the landfill because no one taking care and the shelter can create social issues such as: place drug and alcohol consumption can lead to violence and sexual harassment and abused. The toilet had been built by Pheun Mit Charity (A charity helping homeless and poor people). However, registered waste pickers have requested for toilets and shelter at the landfill;
- Both Villagers from Naphasouk village and registered waste pickers have requested the followings (i) an increase in unit rate paid for their collected recycle wastes as now it is low (LAK300/Kg); (ii) more excavators to move/push the waste so they can easily short the waste, big space for sorting the waste; (iii) request the excavator driver to provide signal or warning (horn); (iv) a safe space to park motorbike and motorbike with extended trailer and happy to pay fees (2000-5000LAK for security man to watch/protect their motorbike; (v) request for PPE; (vi) rehabilitation of access road: pave the road (or at least gravel) for both access road to KM32 and to KM16.
- The project will continue to consult with stakeholders during the preparation of future studies (ESIA, full feasibility, detailed design) Moreover, as the project progresses consultations may be done with identified affected households directly on specific topics such as land acquisition impacts, restoration of livelihood, construction timelines, trainings on health and safety and Gender Based Violence, job opportunities, etc.

Table 5-2 List of Stakeholders Consultation Meetings; Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informants Interview (KII)

Date	Organization	# of Interviewee		Remarks
		Total	Female	
03 August 2022	Public Works and Transport	4	2	One Hmong
	Institute (PTI)			
09 August 2022	Department of Environment (DOE)	2	1	
09 August 2022	Department of Inspection on	2	0	
	Natural Resources (DINE)			

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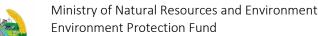
Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

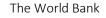
Date	Organization	#	of	Remarks
	S	Inter	viewee	
		Total	Female	
09 August 2022	Department of Natural	3	0	
	Resources and Environmental			
	Research Institute (DNRERI)			
10 August 2022	Vientiane City Office for	1	0	Five (05) focal points (1
	Management and Service			female) from DINE, PTI,
	(VCOMS)			DHUP, NRERI joined the
				meeting
10 August 2022	Small B	5	5	Two (02) focal points (1
				female) from DNERI and
				PTI joined the meeting
11 August 2022	Xaythani district hospital	2	1	One focal point from PTI
			_	joined the meeting
11 August 2022	Two shopkeepers of Nahai	2	2	
	village			
11 August 2022	Naphasouk Village: Village	20	17	All are Lao Tai
	authorities and villagers			
11 4 4 2022	(seasonal waste pickers)	60	22	2 171
11 August 2022	KM32 Landfill: Waste pickers	60	33	3 are Khmu
11 4	and community waste center	2	2	A 11 T T-:
11 August 2022	Nahai Village (where the KM16 Transfer Station	2	2	All are Lao Tai
	Located): only two women who			
	are the shop owners as Village			
	authorities was not available			
	due to village works			
16 August 2022	Provincial Office of Natural	1	0	
-011050012022	Resource and Environment of	*		
	Vientiane capital (PONRE-			
	VTE)			
16 August 2022	Department of Housing and	2	0	
_	Urban Planning (DHUP)			

5.4 Consultations and Covid 19 Safety Precautions

56. The current context of Covid 19 outbreak affects the Bank requirements for public consultation and stakeholder engagement. In the case of projects under preparation and stakeholder engagement is about to commence or is ongoing, such as in the project E&S planning process, stakeholder consultation and engagement activities should not be deferred,

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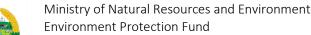
but rather designed to be fit for purpose to ensure effective and meaningful consultations to meet project and stakeholder needs following the Bank's Technical Note on Public Consultations and Stakeholder Engagement in WB-supported operations when there are constraints on conducting public meetings dated March 20, 2020. The note advises to avoid public gatherings (taking into account national restrictions), including public hearings, workshops, and community meetings, and minimize direct interaction between project agencies and beneficiaries / affected people, make all reasonable efforts to conduct meetings through online channels, including WebEx, zoom and skype meetings and rely more on social media and online channels. In situations where online interaction is challenging, information can be disseminated through digital platform (see Error! Reference source not found.).

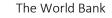
- 57. The project will also commit to Lao governments' epidemiological guidelines and restrictions associated with COVID-19. Caution needs to be given to COVID-19 developments in Lao PDR and requirements by the GoL, as well as updated guidance issued by WHO. All measures implemented to address COVID-19 related risks need to be in accordance with the local applicable laws and policies, especially those related to media and communication. All required government health and safety measures shall be strictly complied such as limit the number of participants and attendees during meetings and interviews with stakeholders to maintain social distancing and encourage participants to wash their hands and check for body temperatures. Consultation meetings shall be held on a well ventilated area (open space) and provide hand sanitizer gel or alcohol and face masks to distribute to all participants prior to the meeting. If necessary, also required to have their individual Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during meetings and field visits.
- 58. If face-to-face consultations are not possible due to Covid restrictions or any pandemic in the future, online consultation using WebEx, Zoom or Skype or other digital platforms will be conducted. Relevant project documents will be made accessible on the EPF, MPWT and MONRE websites and relevant information will be directly sent to the stakeholders that the project intends to receive feedback from.

5.5 Proposed strategy to incorporate the view of vulnerable groups

- **59.** The views of vulnerable/disadvantaged groups (Please see Section 4.3 for disadvantaged/vulnerable individuals/groups) will be sought during the consultation process through the following measures to remove obstacles to participation:
 - Large print.
 - Choosing accessible venues that are well ventilated area (open space)
 - Having small, focused meetings where vulnerable stakeholders are more comfortable asking questions or raising concerns.
 - Good facilitation to ensure meaningful participation in the consultation
 - Providing special assistance in grievances of the vulnerable groups.
- 60. Using appropriate translators or ethnic language speakers, with village groups split by

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gender, to discuss the potential impacts of project activities, both positive and negative. During consultation involving communities' representatives, village level representative of the LWU will be invited from each village and gender disaggregated FGD to ensure women voices are heard and recorded.

- The SEP should be coordinated with the EGEF requiring Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) apply and/or are desirable. Determination on whether FPIC applies should be agreed with the World Bank when project sites are confirmed, considering the requirements of the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), and as provided for in the EGEF for the project. Regardless of whether FPIC is required, special attention should be given to the need for consultation with ethnic peoples with EGEF. The government mass organizations including LFND and LWU with local presence nationwide have mandate to represent and protect the ethnic groups and ethnic women's rights and interest. In ethnic villages, tribal leaders are usually elected as the head of village, with LFND representing them and chairing the village mediation unit. In multi-ethnic villages, leaders or representatives of each ethnic groups are usually included in the community organization. Both LFND and LWU will be part of past and further consultations. Ethnic groups in Laos observe one of two systems, or structures, of power: one is clan-based and, the other, on a council of elders. They need to be consulted throughout the project life cycle. Power or authority at the community level is shared both by the customary holder of a position of power and, also, by the mass organizations presided over by the village chief. These ethnic group leaders will be consulted during the project cycle.
- 62. The project will ensure that women will be involved and actively participate from the planning and implementation stages of the project. For example, there may be specific womenonly FGDs led by women moderators.

As per the ESS7, FPIC is required in circumstances in which the project will:

- (a) have adverse impacts on land and natural resources subject to traditional ownership or under customary use or occupation (For detailed description of the potential impacts, please see EGEF, a separate document on Ethnic Group Engagement Framework, for more details).
- (b) cause relocation of Ethnic Peoples from land and natural resources subject to traditional ownership, or under customary use or occupation; or
- (c) have significant impacts on Ethnic Peoples' cultural heritage that is material to the identity and/or cultural, ceremonial, or spiritual aspects of the affected Ethnic Peoples (Para 24-26, ESS7).

5.6 Timelines

63. A summary of timelines for key activities is provided in Table 5-3.

Table 5-3: Indicative Timeline

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Activity	Project Phase	Timeline	Responsibility	Location
Disclosure of the ESF	Prior to World	Starting 18	EPF-MONRE	Website of
Documents,	Bank Appraisal	November 2022	and MPWT	the EPF;
including translated				MPWT and
Lao version of the			For All	MONRE
Executive Summary			Components	
of ESMF; RPF;				
EGEF, and this SEP				
and full translated				
version of the ESCP.				
Field visits, initial	During	TBD	EPF, MONRE	At the
consultations, local-	Implementation		and Consultants	Provincial
level meetings to			for Components	and District
introduce project			1, 2	level
			DHUP-MPWT	
			and Consultants	
			for Component 3	
Specific extent of	During	TBD	EPF, MONRE	Subproject
E&S impacts, based	Implementation		and Consultants	locations
on location			for Components	
			1, 2	
			DHUP-MPWT	
			and Consultants	
			for Component 3	
Preparation of	Implementation	TBD	DHUP-MPWT,	Subproject
detailed design and	Detailed Design		Consultant,	locations
bid documents			Contractor (for	
			design) for	
			Component 3	
Detailed	Implementation:	TBD	ESIA	Subproject
measurement of land	Detailed Design		Consultant,	locations
acquisition impacts.			Contractor (for	
Preparation of			design), DHUP-	
Resettlement Plans			MPWT, District	
and consultations			and Village	
with affected people,			Resettlement	
etc.			Committee	
			(RCs),	

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Activity	Project Phase	Timeline	Responsibility	Location
If applicable,	If EGs are found,	TBD	ESIA Consultant	Subproject
preparation of Ethnic	in line with WB		for Component 3	locations
Group Engagement	ESS7.		Ethnic Group	
Plan(s)			consultant may	
			also be needed)	
			EPF, MONRE	
			EPF, MONRE and Consultants	
			for Components	
			1, 2	
Implementation of	Implementation:	TBD	RCs (for land	Subproject
Detailed RAP ahead	Civil Works		acquisition),	locations
of civil works (i.e.,			PIU-DPWT,	
delivery of			Contractor,	
entitlements), hiring			MPWT for C3.	
of local workers,				
trainings on gender,			EPF, MONRE	
trainings for			and Consultants	
contractors and staff,			for Components	
road safety, etc.			1, 2	
Disclosure of ESMPs,	Implementation:	TBD	EPF, MONRE	MPWT
RAPs and any other	Detailed Design	122	and Consultants	Websites,
relevant plans			for Components	WB
			1, 2	Websites
			DHUP-MPWT	
			and Consultants	
Works sommense	Ahead of Civil	TBD	for Component 3	Culmusiaat
Works commence, implementation of	Works	מפו	Contractor, PMU-EPF for	Subproject locations
Detailed RAP ahead	WOLKS		C1 and 2	1004110118
of civil works (i.e.,				
delivery of			Contractor, PIU-	
entitlements),			DPWT, Design	
,			and Supervision	
			Consultants, RCs	
			(if land	
			acquisition) for	
			Component 3	

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Activity	Project Phase	Timeline	Responsibility	Location
Training on GRM	During	Start six (6)	EPF, MONRE	Subproject
	Implementation	months after	and Consultants	locations
		project	for Components	
		effectiveness	1, 2	
			DHUP-DPWT	
			and Consultants	
			for Component 3	
Hiring of local	Ahead of Civil	TBD	Contractor,	Subproject
workers, trainings on	Works		PMU-EPF,	locations
gender, GRM,			PMU-MPWT,	
trainings for			DHUP-DWPT,	
contractors and staff,			Design and	
etc.			Supervision	
			Consultants, RCs	
			(if land	
			acquisition)	

5.7 Review of Comments

- 64. All draft ESF documents (ESCP, SEP, ESMF, RPF, EGEF, Pre-ESIA) will be shared with project stakeholders starting 1st week of October at the central, provincial and district level via MPWT's Website, WhatsApp, and email where accessible and a brief power point presentation was distributed in advance prior to each consultation to ensure that all participants had sufficient time to acknowledge the content and formulate comments, feedback, and suggestions as per the ESS10 requirement. Contact details at EDPD/PTI to receive feedback and suggestions were provided. An Executive Summary of all the ESF documents in Lao language has been prepared and distributed to the provincial and district offices. Similar approaches will be in place during project implementation. As needed, in the future additional measures will be taken to ensure relevant documents are available in a format accessible to ethnic minorities as well as illiterate persons.
- 65. During each consultation, notes with attendance lists shall be taken ensuring that age, gender, ethnicity and social position and their feedback and concerns are recorded.
- 66. During consultations for project preparation, feedback and questions received from the stakeholders during consultations as well as via e-mail and WhatsApp was recorded by the EPF-MONRE and MPWT and incorporated into the content of the ESF Documents where relevant and noted in Annex 2 of the SEP. A similar approach shall be taken during future consultations as the project moves from preparation to implementation phase.
- 67. The ESF Documents are living documents subject to further improvement and redisclosure to reflect outcomes from continued consultations, feedback and lessons learned from

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the implementation of these ESF instruments during the project lifetime.

5.8 Reporting back to stakeholder groups

- 68. The SEP will be periodically revised and updated following future consultations or as necessary during project implementation to ensure that the information presented herein is consistent and is the most recent, and that the identified methods of engagement remain appropriate and effective in relation to the project context and specific phases of the development. Any major changes to the project related activities and to its schedule will be duly reflected in the SEP. The PMU-EPF and PMU-MPWT shall notify the WB on the updated SEP (if changes made in the plan are minor) and will send it to the WB for prior review and clearance (if changes are significant) before re-disclosure.
- 69. Monthly summaries and internal reports on public grievances, enquiries, and related incidents, together with the status of implementation of associated corrective/preventative actions will be collated by responsible staff and referred to the senior management of the project. The annual summaries which are public documents will provide a mechanism for assessing both the number and the nature of complaints and requests for information, along with the Project's ability to address those in a timely and effective manner. Stakeholders shall be reminded periodically of the availability of the grievance mechanism.
- 70. Information on public engagement activities undertaken by the Project during the year may be conveyed to the stakeholders in two ways:
 - 1. Publication of a standalone annual report on project's interaction with the stakeholders.
 - 2. Several Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will also be monitored by the project on a regular basis, including the following parameters:
 - a) number of public hearings, consultation meetings and other public discussions/forums conducted annually.
 - b) Number of men and women participating in public engagement meetings, activities, etc. annually.
 - c) number of public grievances received monthly and number of those resolved within the prescribed timeline; and
 - d) number of project documents published/broadcasted in the local, regional, and national media.

6 Resources and Responsibilities

6.1 Resources

71. EDPD/PTI will be in charge of organizing stakeholder engagement activities and provide the required technical support and assistance to undertake stakeholder engagement. A total provisional budget of US\$60,000 is estimated for implementation of SEP and stakeholders'

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engagement activities excluding the cost of consultations which are embedded in various project activities (see Annex 3).

6.2 Management functions and responsibilities

- The implementation arrangements for the project will follow the existing government structures. The Ministry of Finance (MOF) is the borrower and the formal point of contact between the Government of Lao PDR and the World Bank on all financial and legal matters for the credit and represents the Government of Lao PDR in discussions on these matters. MOF is expected to have reasonable capacity to deliver effectively, as it has implemented World Bank financed projects previously.
- The MONRE will be the lead agency for Components 1 and 2, the MPWT will be the lead agency for Component 3, and the EPF will be the lead agency for Component 4. Project activities will be implemented by several agencies under the MONRE, the MPWT and the EPF, and under the MAF, MEM, and MPI. A summary of agencies involved in the EWMP is presented in Table 6-1 and Figure 6-1.

Table 6-1 Lead Agencies for the different Components and Subcomponents

Component	Lead Responsible Agency		
Component 1. Policy Implementation and Capacity	MONRE		
Enhancement (PICE)			
Subcomponent 1A. Policy and capacity support on EIA/IEE/SEA,	DOE/DWR-MONRE		
solid waste management, and Toxic and Hazardous Waste (THW)			
Subcomponent 1B. Capacity and Financial support to SMEs on	EPF		
environmental and waste management			
Subcomponent 1C. Policy and capacity support on ECC	DNEI/NRERI/DWR-		
compliance and pollution monitoring framework	MONRE		
Subcomponent 1D. Policy and Capacity support on Climate	DCC-MONRE/ DOP-		
change: low carbon resilient development	MPI		
Subcomponent1E. Policy and capacity support on plastics	DOE/DPF-MONRE		
policies and legislation			
Component 2. Integrated Support and Capacity Building for	MONRE		
Local Government and Municipalities			
Subcomponent 2A. Support and Capacity Building for Local	DNEI/NRERI-MONRE		
Gov't on waste and pollution data and information systems and			
waste service			
Subcomponent 2B. GCB and 3R projects + capacity building for	DOE-MONRE		
NPAP/plastic policies implementation in target districts			
Subcomponent 2C. Support to private-public partnerships and	TBD		
enhancing output-based waste service delivery and cost recovery			
capacity			

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Component 3. Infrastructure investments for solid waste and	MPWT
plastic management	
Subcomponent 3A. Priority infrastructure investments in solid	DHUP-MPWT
waste management	
Subcomponent 3B. Infrastructure investments in plastics	DHUP-MPWT
management	
Component 4. Project Coordination and Reporting	EPF
Subcomponent 4A. Project management and administration	EPF
Subcomponent 4B. Communication, Engagement, and EPF	EPF
Capacity building	
Component 5. Contingency Emergency Response	

- 74. EPF Project Management Unit (PMU). A PMU is proposed to be established at the EPF to support project management and oversee the implementation of Components 1, 2 and 4. The PMU is proposed to include: a chief technical advisor (CTA), financial management team, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) team, environmental and social safeguard (E&S) team, and a team of project coordinator and subproject coordinators. EPF PMU will also be responsible for the overall project coordination and reporting to WB every six months while DHUP will submit a 6-month progress report to EPF. However, in case of accident, DHUP will report directly to WB and copy to EPF.
- 75. *MPWT Project Committee and PMU*. The MPWT proposed to establish a committee to oversee the implementation of activities under Component 3. It was proposed that the committee will be chaired by the Vice Minister of MPWT and include Director Generals (DGs) and Deputy Director Generals (DDGs) of MPWT's Department of Planning and Cooperation (DPC), and Department of Finance (DPF), Department of Housing and Urban Planning (DHUP), Public Works and Transport Institute (PTI), and local Departments of Public Works and Transport. The MPWT PMU is proposed to include technical staff of the DHUP, the DPC and the PTI. The MPWT will continue to discuss the arrangements and terms of reference of the project committee and will confirm these with the WB team. A district level project implementation unit is proposed to be established at the District office of Public Works and Transport, and would comprise the DPWT, UDAA and DONRE.
- 76. National Project Steering Committee (NPSC). The national-level project steering committee would provide high-level strategic guidance and enable cross-ministerial collaboration to support implementation of the EWMP. The EPF Board of Directors would serve as the NPSC and that the Vice Minister of the MPWT would be invited to join the EPF Board. The Minister of the MONRE is the chair of the EPF Board and would serve as the chair of the NPSC. The EPF Board of Directors served as the NPSC for the Second Laos Environmental and Social project (LENS2) and so there is precedence for the proposed arrangement. The EPF is proposed to serve as the secretariat for the NPSC.
- 77. Provincial Project Steering Committee (PPSC). The mission confirmed that three

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PPSCs would be convened for Vientiane Capital, Oudomxay and Vientiane provinces to provide strategic guidance and enable coordination among provincial and district levels of government during project implementation. It was proposed that the PPSC would be chaired by the Vice Governor of each of the two provinces and Vientiane Capital, and would comprise representatives of the DPWT, PONRE, DONRE, UDAA and mayors of target districts and provinces. The PONRE is proposed to serve as the secretariat for PPSC. The government team will continue to discuss the arrangements for the PPSC and the proposed terms of reference and will confirm this with the WB subsequently.

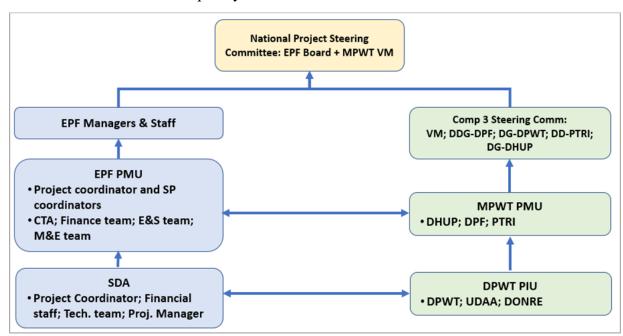


Figure 6-1 Proposed Institutional Arrangements

The ESMF institutional arrangements are broken down into MPWT PMU and EPF PMU. The MPWT PMU will be responsible for planning, supervision, monitoring and reporting of the C3 implementation while EPF PMU will be responsible the C1,2,4 implementation (See Figure 6-2) and the details of roles and responsibilities are provided in Section 6.2 (C1,2 & 4) and 6.3 (C3) below.

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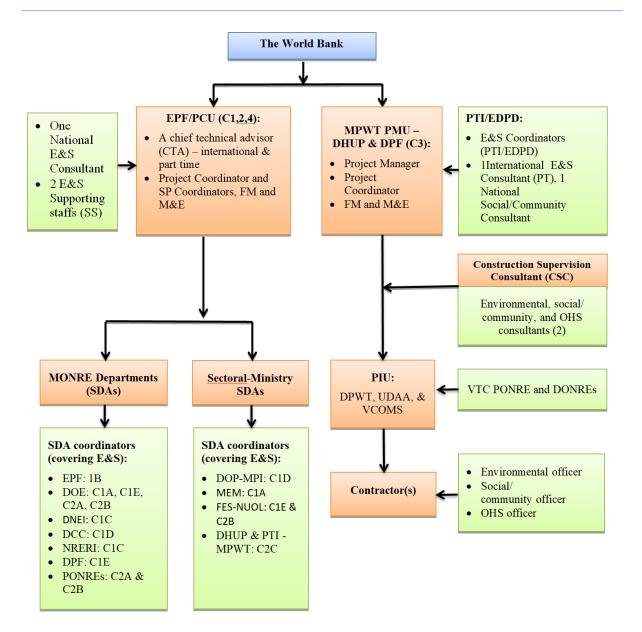


Figure 6-2 ESMF Institutional Arrangements

6.3 ESMF Implementation Arrangement for C1,2,4

- 79. The implementation arrangements for the project will follow the existing government The EPF PMU will work in close coordination with and provide technical support to Subcomponent Implementing Agencies (SIAs) of MONRE and MPI who will be actually planning and implementing the project on the ground, including environmental and social instruments. The EPF PMU will be tasked with overall supervision and monitoring of the implementation of environmental and social measures including GRM for C1,2,4.
- 80. The EPF PMU with the technical support from CTA and E&S consultant team will be responsible for ensuring that E&S requirements are mainstreamed in subcomponent activity planning, design and implementation including LEMGP and MGA process. At subproject level,

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SIAs are responsible for planning and implementation of E&S activities including the implementation and management of the GRM.

- 81. E&S clearance: The EPF PMU the technical support from CTA and E&S consultant team will review and approve all the ESF documents (ESCOP, ESMP with CHSP, LMP, CoC on SEA/SH and VAC, SEP, EGEP) prepared by contractors and owners of MGA.
- 82. ESMF Implementation Arrangement for C3
- 83. The EDPD/PTI will work in close coordination with and provide technical support to the Component Management Units of MPWT; and the provincial DPWTs who will be actually planning and implementing the project on the ground, including environmental and social instruments. EDPD/PTI will be tasked with overall supervision and monitoring of the implementation of environmental and social measures.
- 84. MPWT PMU with the technical support from EDPD/PTI will be responsible for ensuring that E&S requirements are mainstreamed in maintenance planning, design and pre-construction works including tendering and contracting process.
- 85. MPWT PMU will recruit a qualified ESIA firm to carry out and prepare a full ESIA with SS-ESMMP, ARAPs and EGEPs (if applicable) for KM32, KM16 and Naxaythong site. In addition to the preparation of full ESIA report, the selected ESIA firm will also assist PMU to prepare E&S requirements in the BD/CD and conduct training on the approved SS-ESMP, ARAP and EGEP.
- 86. At subproject level, VCOMS is responsible for planning and implementation of E&S activities including the implementation and management of the GRM. The VCOMS will assign E&S focal persons to be responsible for compliance with environment and social standards of the project activities.
- 87. MPWT PMU will also recruit Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC), which will include environmental, social and OHS specialists, for day-to-day supervision of Contractor performance and implementation support to VCOMS and EDPD/PTI during the construction of C3 including ensuring full compliance with the ESS measures as required by the WB and GOL.

Contact details of Implementing Agency:

Project Management Unit of the EWMP Project: EPF
Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment (MONRE)
Mobile Phone:
Address:
Telephone numbers:
Email:
And
Project Management Unit of the EWMP Project: Department of Urban Housing and Planning (DHUP)- MPWT
Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment (MONRE) Mobile Phone: Address: Telephone numbers: Email: And Project Management Unit of the EWMP Project: Department of Urban Housing and Planning

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Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT)

Name:

Cell Phone:

Address: LanXang Avenue, Phonxay Village, Saysettha District, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR.

Tel:.

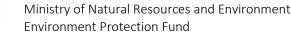
E-mail:

7 Grievance Redress Mechanism

- 88. The overall project Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is also applicable to Gender Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) and Violence Against Children (VAC) related grievances, although complainants can also choose to submit their complaints directly to GBV Service Providers. The key principles of the grievance mechanism are to ensure that:
 - The basic rights and interests of affected people, including ethnic groups, are protected.
 - The concerns of affected people, including ethnic groups, arising from the project implementation process are adequately addressed.
 - Entitlements or livelihood support for affected people, including ethnic groups, if required, are provided on time and accordance with the government decree² requirements and World Bank's ESF, and
 - Affected people, including ethnic groups, are aware of their rights to access grievance procedures free of charge for the above purposes.
- 89. The MPWT PMU; DHUP-DPWT and EDPD/PTI will be responsible for receiving and resolving in a fair, objective, and constructive manner, all concerns or complaints raised by project affected persons (PAPs). Their broad responsibilities of the grievance management include:
 - Developing and publicizing the grievance management procedures.
 - Receiving, reviewing, investigating, and keeping track of grievances.
 - Adjudicating grievances.
 - Monitoring and evaluating fulfilment of agreements achieved through the grievance mechanism.
- 90. In the Component 3 it is envisaged there could be five types of grievances:
 - Grievances relating to land acquisition, that follow the Resettlement Action Plan's GRM (detailed in the project's RPF/Draft RAPs).

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² Decree No. 84/PM on Compensation and Resettlement of People Affected by Development Project (2016)







- Grievances related to ethnic groups who may be excluded from project activities, attachment to land, different cultural practices, low literacy levels, lack of Lao language
- Grievances related to Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH); and Violence Against Children (VAC)
- Grievances related to project implementation (including relating to environmental and social impacts, health, worker's camp, road safety, pollution and waste, etc.). Some of these may be specific to ethnic groups.
- Job-related disputes (detailed in the project's LMP).

7.1 Grievance Procedures for Workers

- 91. All project workers will be informed of the Grievance Mechanism process as part of their contract and induction package.
- 92. The process for the Worker GRM is as follows:
 - The first step is that the Project Worker Aggrieved Person/Party may report their grievance in person, by phone, text message, mail or email (including anonymously if required) to the Contractor as the initial focal point for information and raising grievances. For complaints that were satisfactorily resolved, the incident and resultant resolution will be logged and reported to the MPWT E&S focal person. SEA/SH Related Grievance Person/Party may also use this channel or may go to a service provider engaged by the contractor.
 - As a second step, where the Project Worker is not satisfied, the Contractor will refer the aggrieved party to the Lao Federation of Trade Unions, and report to the PMU-EPF or MPWT-PMU Management. The Lao Federation of Trade Unions endeavours to address and resolve the complaint and inform the Aggrieved Person/Party in two weeks or less. For complaints that were satisfactorily resolved, the incident and resultant resolution will be logged by PMU-EPF or MPWT-PMU E&S focal persons. Where the complaint has not been resolved, PMU-EPF or MPWT-PMU will refer to the Project Manager/Director for further action or resolution.
 - As a third step, if the matter remains unresolved, or the Project Worker is not satisfied with the outcome, the PMU-EPF or MPWT-PMU should refer the matter to the EWMP Steering Committee for a resolution, which shall aim to resolve the grievance in three weeks or less. The PMU-EPF or MPWT-PMU E&S focal persons will log details of issue and resultant resolution status. Up until the third stage there will be no fees for the lodgement of grievances. However, if the complaint remains unresolved or the complainant is dissatisfied with the outcome proposed by the Project Steering Committee, the Aggrieved Person may refer the matter to the appropriate legal or judicial authority, at the complainant's own expense. A decision of the Court will be final.

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93. Each grievance record should be allocated a unique number reflecting year and sequence of received complaint (for example 2023-01, 2023-02 etc.). Complaint records (letter, email, record of conversation) should be stored together, electronically or in hard copy. The National Social Consultant will be the focal person under EPF PMU will be responsible for undertaking a regular (at least monthly) review of all grievances to analyze and respond to any common issues arising. The EPF PMU is also responsible for oversight of the GRM and regular reporting the grievance status in regular project reports.

7.2 Grievances Redress Mechanism (GRM) of the Project

- 94. Based on the SEP, wherever possible, the project team shall seek to resolve complaints as soon as possible, and thus avoid escalation of issues. A recommended timeframe for the resolution of a complaint should be sought within two weeks. There are no fees or charges levied for the lodgment and processing of grievances at all level. However, where a complaint cannot be readily resolved, then it must be escalated. In order to effectively and quickly resolve grievances of affected people, according to the Law on Grievance Redress or the revised Law on Handling Petitions 012/NA approved by the National Assembly on December 5, 2014 and the President in 2015 and also the guideline on consultation with ethnic groups was launched by the Lao Front for National Development (LFND formerly known as LFNC), in 2013, in line with the National Guideline on Public Involvement, 2012, to ensure an effective and efficient grievance, a mechanism for the project is proposed as follows:
 - ❖ Stage 1: The first level of complaint resolution, following traditional methods in Laos, should be the Village through its Village Mediation Unit (VMU) and/or Sub-district (kum) level who may be able to resolve issues on the spot. The VMU at the village level would comprise of representatives of ethnic group community leaders, and head of mediation unit or village elder persons.

Complaints can be submitted in verbal or written forms. It is expected that some complainants such as ethnic minority or vulnerable individuals/households might not be able to write any complaints. Members of the VMU should support them in writing down their grievances. Complainants may also retain the right to bypass the VMU procedure and as such can direct their grievance directly to DONRE or DHUP-MPWT, as provided by law in Lao PDR. This can be through a website, email, Facebook, and WhatsApp, for example.

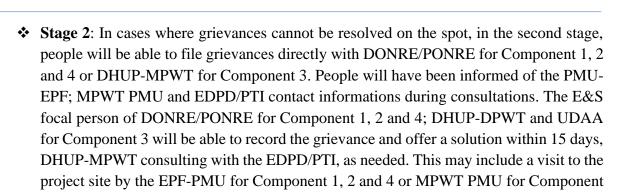
The VMU shall make the arbitrated decision within 10 days. The Village/Sub-district level, specifically the Chief of Mediation Unit, Village Chief and/or Kum Chief, should record the grievance and how it was resolved and communicate it to the DONRE for Component 1, 2 and 4 or DHUP-MPWT for Component 3. There are no fees or charges levied for the lodgement and processing of grievances at this level.

In cases where grievance is related to a labour dispute, the grievance may be first submitted to the contractor and/or human resource staff of the contractor directly as detailed in the project's Labour Management Procedures (LMP).

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grievances at this level.

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3, if necessary. There are no fees or charges levied for the lodgement and processing of

- ❖ Stage 3: in cases where grievance still cannot be resolved, or not resolved to the satisfaction of the any complainant, he/she shall have the right to submit a complaint to the Project Manager and Director of the EPF-PMU for Components 1, 2 and 4 and Project Manager and Director of MPWT PMU or EDPD/PTI as desired by the complainant. The administrative arbitration organization shall make the arbitrated decision within 20 days. Like the two previous stages, there are no fees or charges levied for the lodgement and processing of grievances at this level.
- ❖ Stage 4: if the complainants are still unsatisfied with the arbitrated decision made by the administrative arbitration organization at the Provincial level, after receiving the arbitrated decision, they can file a lawsuit in a civil court according to relevant laws and regulations of the Lao PDR. The complainant will bear the cost at this stage but will be reimbursed for their expenses by the EPF-PMU for Components 1, 2 and 4 and MPWT PMU for Component 3 if their complaint is successful.
 - It is important to note that the WB ESF and GRM do not apply to person-to-person disputes, but only state-to-person disputes.
- 95. Complainants may opt to raise their grievances directly to PMU of EPF or PMU of MPWT as the Project Management Unit of the EWM Project via a WhatsApp hotline (widely used even in most rural areas) or via the EPF and MPWT website. Contact detail of focal staff from PMU-MPWT; PMU-EPF and PIU and other concerned agencies are responsible for GRM should be provided in project information leaflet/booklet to be prepared and distributed to all project villages well in advance of consulting and GRM training for village mediation committees. GRM booklets should also include contact information for the relevant Village Mediation Units (first step of grievance redress).
- 96. The project will provide GRM committee in all target villages and districts/landscapes with a logbook where grievances are registered in writing and maintained as a database for monitoring and reporting. Sample templates for GRM logbooks (Table 5 and grievance forms are included in the SEP (Annex 1: Form to Submit Grievances).
- 97. Some sensitive cases of grievances, such as those relating to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) or Violence Against Children (VAC) may require a

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professional expertise to help investigate and resolve. Budget for this is included in the implementation of ESMF instruments, including SEP. Confidentiality shall be preserved for all grievances and anonymity if requested. The full ESIA should further look to examine the appropriateness and accessibility of the GRM, especially for ethnic groups.

- 98. For grievances involving non-Lao speaking ethnic groups, the village chief or representative from the Lao Front National Development will be invited to provide support to the GRM Committee and ensure that a local translator is available during consultations. Since ethnic languages may not be written, communication materials will need to take this into account and adapt so that messages can still reach ethnic groups.
- 99. In order to facilitate women and vulnerable people's access to the mechanism, they will be specifically consulted with the support from the Lao Women's Union (LWU) who will be a member of the GRM Committee (at every stage/level) to ensure they are able to access the grievance mechanism.

7.3 Recording Grievances

- 100. The EPF PMU for Components 1, 2 and 4 and PMU-MPWT for Component 3 will consolidate and register as part of the project to record any concerns raised by any stakeholder during the implementation of the EWM Project. Any serious complaint (such as life-threatening, relating to GBV/SH or criminal) will be advised to the World Bank within 24 hours of receiving the complaint. This register is multi-tier (village, district, PMU), with the PMU of EPF and PMU of MPWT having overall responsibility for the database.
- 101. A summary list of complaints received, and their disposition, along with key statistics on the number of complaints and duration taken to close out, must be reported in each regular progress report. Each record is allocated a unique number reflecting year and sequence of received complaint (for example 2021-01, 2021-02 etc.). Complaint records (letter, email, record of conversation) should be stored together, electronically or in hard copy under the responsibility of the PMU-EPF and PMU-MPWT and PIU-DWPT. The EPF and MPWT will hire a Consultant to develop an effective and practical paper-based and electronic system to be used by the PMU-EPF and PMU-MPWT and PIU-DWPT prior to the implementation of the project.

Table 0-1: Sample Grievance Log for the at the Village Level

	Grievance Log							
Name of Complainan t (or anonymous)	Sex (M/F)	Contact info	Date Received	Details of the nature of the grievance (Environmental impacts, social impacts, labour, health, SEA/SH, etc.)	To whom was grievance submitted	Actions to resolve grievance	Date grievance was settled (and what stage)	How was the response provided?

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8 Monitoring and Reporting

8.1 SEP Indicators to be documented in Progress Reports

ENGAGEMENT WITH PROJECT AFFECTED PARTIES (PAPs)

Number and location of formal meetings with PAPs

Number and location of informal meetings with PAPs

Number and location of community awareness raising or training meetings

Number of men and women that attended each of the meetings above

Number, location, attendance and documentation of the meetings held with the governorates and communities or other stakeholders

For each meeting, number and nature of comments received, actions agreed during these meetings, status of those actions, and how the comments were included in the Project ESMP.

Minutes of meetings of formal meetings and summary note of informal meetings will be annexed to the report. They will summarize the view of attendees and distinguish between comments raised by men and women.

ENGAGEMENT WITH OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

Number and nature of engagement activities with other stakeholders, disaggregated by category of stakeholder (national and local authorities, NGOs, civil society, economic actors, technical and financial development partners, media)

Issues raised by NGOs and other stakeholders, actions agreed with them and status of those actions

Minutes of meetings will be annexed to the six-monthly report

Number and nature of Project documents publicly disclosed

Number and nature of updates of the Project website

Number and categories of comments received on the website

GRIEVANCE RESOLUTION MECHANISM

Number of grievances received, in total and at the local level, at the PMU, on the website, disaggregated by complainant's gender and means of receipt (telephone, email, discussion)

Number of grievances received from affected people, external stakeholders

Number of grievances which have been (i) opened, (ii) opened for more than 30 days, (iii) those which have been resolved, (iv) closed, and (v) number of responses that satisfied the complainants, during the reporting period disaggregated by category of grievance, gender, age and location of complainant.

Average time of complaint's resolution process, disaggregated by gender of complainants and categories of complaints

Number of local GRC meetings, and outputs of these meetings (minutes of meetings signed by the attendees, including the complainants to be annexed to the report)

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

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Number of perception surveys conducted (mid-implementation phase, end of the project's implementation)

Satisfaction rate of surveyed respondents

System in place for dynamic and continuous citizen participation in the project

Number of initiatives launched to collect citizen's feedback

The reporting on Environmental and Social activities conducted by the PMU during the implementation phase will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the ESMP and will include indicators in the table above.

102. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be periodically revised and updated as necessary in the course of the EWM project implementations in order to ensure that the information presented herein is consistent and is the most recent, and that the identified methods of engagement remain appropriate and effective in relation to the project context and specific phases of the development. Any major changes to the project related activities and to its schedule will be duly reflected in the SEP.

103. Semi-annually and Annual summaries and internal reports on public grievances, enquiries and related incidents, together with the status of implementation of associated corrective/preventative actions will be collated by PMU-EPF and PMU-MPWT for submission to the World Bank. The monthly summaries will provide a mechanism for assessing both the number and the nature of complaints and requests for information, along with the Project's ability to address those in a timely and effective manner.

9 Annexes

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Annex 1: Form to Submit Grie	vances
Grievance Form ID Number:	Date Received:
Complaints Received by (please check	() the appropriate box):
\Box EPF \Box MPWT \Box MONRE \Box DPWT	□ District □ Village
Complaint made via (please check $()$	the appropriate box):
\square In person \square Phone \square E-mail \square SMS	□ Website
□ Complaint Box / Other advice □ Cor	mmunity/Village Meeting
□ Others	
FULL NAME AND LAST NAME of	Complainant (or Anonymous):
GENDER: Male Female AGE:	
CONTACT DETAILS (by post, by tel	
Please include as much details as possi (ii) when did it happen, (iii) who did i Include additional information as need	eason for complaint and activity leading to complaint. ble to answer the following questions: (i) what happened, t happen to, (iv) what was the impact of what happened. led/desired.
REMEDY REQUESTED BY COMPL	LAINT:
SIGNATURE:	
FOR ADMIN USE ONLY:	
Grievance Received by:	
Action taken or required:	





Annex 2a: List and Results of Key Informant Interviews during Project Preparation

Date	Organization	# of Interviewee			Results of the Interview Concerning Views on Impacts of the Project and Proposed Mitigating Measures	Remarks
		Total	Female	Ethnic		
03 August 2022	Public Works and Transport Institute (PTI)	4	2	1	Positive Impacts: Improve environmental and waste management, more employment opportunities and income, promote involvement of private sector in the waste management Negative Impacts: Concerns sustainability of the project, labour influx leading to social/community conflicts with communities, unfair employment rate, labour discrimination, odour, fly, increased transportation to new landfill facilities, and road safety, resettlement, social conflicts, child, OHS of waste pickers and collectors Recommendations and suggestions:	
					 Conduct detailed ESIA study with inclusive and meaningful consultations to identify potential risks/impacts and propose comprehensive mitigation measures; ESIA firm shall conduct training and capacity building for component 3 (DHUP, PTI and VCOME) The operation of landfill shall be responsible of MPWT or VCOME 	

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Date	Organization		# of Interviewee		/ee	Results of the Interview Concerning Views on Impacts of the Project and Proposed Mitigating Measures	Remarks
		To	otal	Female	Ethnic		
09 August 2022	Department of Environment (DOE)	f 2	2	1		 Proper implementation of the EWMP will bring significant benefits on environmental improvement, public health, and a good model for the next projects; Negative Impacts: Concerns are: Increasing landfill fire/explosion (Methane gas from the landfill operations might not be adequately captured); Community health impact (inadequate handling of waste collection from the community causing longer waste storage at the sources of generation, then people tend to throw the waste in the public). OHS impacts to the waste collection workers (improper handling of infectious and hazardous wastes). Recommendations and suggestions: It needs a very careful thought or determination of the sensitive E&S impacts through proper assessment, transparent disclosure of project information to the public, and proper design of management measures; Resolve the implementation performance of relevant agencies that needs improvement to ensure the effectiveness of the project 	

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Date	Organization	Organization # of Interviewee Results of the Interview Concerning Views on Impacts of the Project and Proposed Mitigating Measures		Remarks		
		Total	Female	Ethnic		
					management: (to improve coordination and information exchange and increase corporation among responsible agencies; set clear organizational roles and resolve delayed responses to the identified problem.	
09 August 2022	Department of Inspection on Natural Resources (DINE)	2	0		 Positive Impacts: The project seems to bring the most and significant positive impacts including public cleanliness, public health improvement. However, we need to pay attention on the project's sustainability. Negative Impacts: if poor O&M practices of the waste and landfill: Environmental quality (air, water, land) problem at surrounding the Km32 landfill. This might cause livelihood impacts (loss of agricultural production, fishing, harvesting, unsafe water resources for livestock etc) Concerns on hygienic and injury of waste collectors/pickers and community health problem and may increase complaints from them. Recommendations and suggestions: 	

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization	# of Interviewee			Results of the Interview Concerning Views on Impacts of the Project and Proposed Mitigating Measures	Remarks
		Total	Female	Ethnic		
		Waste management policy and management and monitoring manuals are available, but actual implementation needs to be place. The role and responsibility of the key agencies should be cle redefined and all the management measures need to be acti	manuals are available, but actual implementation needs to be in			
09 August 2022	Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Research Institute (DNRERI)	3	0		Successful EWMP will reduce illegal waste dumping to the public areas such as roadsides, forest, water courses which are key waste management problems. Improve overall waste collection in the communities Negative Impacts: If inadequate waste management, these impacts maybe persist:	
					 Poor public hygiene, odour, vectors attraction and spreading of transmitted diseases (waste scavenging by pets, waste drop off and etc) Increased surface, ground, land contamination. Recommendations and suggestions: Ensure proper monitoring and evaluation of the project, engage 	
					proper key agencies with budget allocation, and reduce red tape	

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization	# of Interviewee			Results of the Interview Concerning Views on Impacts of the Project and Proposed Mitigating Measures	Remarks
		Total	Female	Ethnic		
					system where feasible through procurement to ensure proper	
					project management timing.	
					Educate the young, awareness raising to society, and improve public	
					access to research information and data.	
10 August 2022	Vientiane City	1	0		Positive Impacts:	Five (05) foc
	Office for Management and Service (VCOMS)				 The EWMP will significantly improve solid waste management from sources of generation through disposal and also landfill operation practices. Improve occupation health and safety of staff responsible for waste handling and etc. Negative Impacts: if inadequate management of the waste collection company: Illegal waste dumping along the waste transportation routes; Increasing odour, flies and poor amenity at the temporary waste storage areas in the community; Injury, fatality if a lack of HS training and supervision; Health problem of waste collection workers and waste pickers Recommendations and suggestions: Provision of capacity building on the E&S management relevant to the 	points (1 femal from DINE, PI DHUP, NREI joined the meetin
					solid waste management and landfill operation is needed to ensure	
					successful achievement of its goal for sustainable public services.	

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization			vee	Results of the Interview Concerning Views on Impacts of the Project and Proposed Mitigating Measures	Remarks
		Total	Female	Ethnic		
10 August 2022	Small B	5	5		 Positive Impacts: Improve overall waste management practices in the existing waste collection coverage areas including the operation of waste transfer station and KM32 landfill. Negative Impacts: Based on hear-say that the project may post some impacts to the waste pickers who are working at the KM32. This needs proper resolution to ensure successful project implementation. Recommendations and suggestions: Small B is willing to cooperation and support the EWMP. 	Two (02) focal points (1 female) from DNERI and PTI joined the meeting
11 August 2022	Xaythani district hospital	2	1		Positive Impacts: • Improve public health and environmental quality Negative Impacts: • Influx of labour, camp operation and waste disposal have potential health problems including as HIV and other sexual transmission diseases, infections and respiratory infection. • Infections and respiratory problem. OHS policy and procedures need to be strictly followed, for instance, wearing proper PPEs during handling waste.	One focal point from PIT joined the meeting

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization	# of Interviewee			Results of the Interview Concerning Views on Impacts of the Project and Proposed Mitigating Measures	Remarks
		Total	Female	Ethnic		
16 August 2022	Provincial Office of Natural Resource and Environment of Vientiane capital (PONRE-VTE)	1	0		 Provide proper information, awareness and training on healthcare and (SEA)/Sexual Harassment for staff and workers. Ensure proper pollution control by proper operation of the waste disposal to prevent smoke, emission and wastewater release. Female should be promoted to be part of the project management which has full authority to access information, decision-making and influence the implementation of action. Positive Impacts: The projects will create benefits for the society (improve the standard of living, create jobs and incomes). Negative Impacts: Uncreated waste wastewater discharging from the landfill that might impact on soil and kill aquatic lives; Strong smell and poor environmental amenity. Road accident-related waste transportation, workplace accident related to the operation of machinery and equipment. Recommendations and suggestions: 	PONRE was busy therefore, postponed ar interview, but the written responses were provided

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization	# of Interviewee		ation # of Interviewee		Organization # of Interviewee Re		vee	Results of the Interview Concerning Views on Impacts of the Project and Proposed Mitigating Measures	Remarks
		Total	Female	Ethnic						
					Build environmental awareness and enforce Laws to the project developers to implement proper the social environmental management.					
16 August 2022	Department of Housing and Urban Planning (DHUP)	2	0		 Positive Impacts: Improve environmental quality, promote public health and safety. Negative Impacts: if inadequate preparation and monitoring: Road safety, OHS of the construction workers during the construction period (mobilizing, operation and demobilizing the equipment/machinery) Dust and noise impacts, wastewater discharge and sediment transport (during the improvement of Km32 landfill). Recommendations and suggestions: Set clear roles and responsibility among the relevant agencies (for example: design, construction, operation and monitoring and reporting etc). The operation agency needs to pay attention on O&M practices to ensure sustainable management of the waste management facilities. 					

SEP





Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization	# 0	of Interviev	vee	Results of the Interview Concerning Views on Impacts of the Project and Proposed Mitigating Measures	Remarks
		Total	Total Female Ethnic			
					Capacity building to designate staff, assign clear roles and KPI and reduce staff rotation. Carried out regular monitoring and evaluation and ensure that the E&S management plan and the O&M are strictly followed.	
To	otal	22	9			

Annex 2b: Results of Focused Group Discussions during Project Preparation

Date	Organization		# of Inter	viewee	Results of the Focused Group Discussion
		Total	Female	Ethnic	
11 August 2022	Naphasouk	20	17	All are Lao-	The results of the FGD in B. Naphasouk are summarized as
	Village: Village			Thai	below:

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization		# of Inter	viewee	Results of the Focused Group Discussion
		Total	Female	Ethnic	
	authorities and				• About 195HHs with 1800 people including 482 females (all are
	villagers				Lao Tai) and 90% of them depends on waste picking and selling;
	(seasonal waste pickers)				• They Income from selling waste: 500,000-1,500,000 per HH per week (300kip/kg); some of them work in day and night times. Everyday people have found valuable materials (gold, jewellery, clothes) and money from waste picking with value ranging LAK100,000 to LAK10m;
					• At least 2 persons in a family (household) go and pick the waste since 2009. Before 2009, mainly on agriculture (paddy field) and one lady said that her paddy was acquired by the landfill but they had received compensation for their land. If they don't have waste to pick and sell it will significantly affect their income and livelihood.
					They used PPE but those who came to the consultation said that they did not receive the training;
					OHS Risks: Accidents and injuries from excavator excavated the waste without signalling or warning. Surprisingly, they said they did not have health issues (only normal cold and fever) and they

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization		# of Inter	viewee	Results of the Focused Group Discussion
		Total	Female	Ethnic	
					 did not smell any things from the landfill which was different from information given by the village authorities; Do not support to move the waste to other place. If no waste to pick some of them said they will find work at available factories but it will be hard because only husband can go to work at factory and wife has to care kids and family. Salary at factory is low about LAK1.5m which is not enough to send their kids to schools, or they may not be able to send their kids to school; Village authorities: support the project development as there is a need to improve the waste management in the VTE capital but request the project to help on the villagers (waste pickers) on their livelihood. If possible, provide free transportation for villagers if moving the waste to other place; Not recommend to build toilet and shelter at the landfill because no one taking care and the shelter can create social issues such as: a place drug and alcohol consumption can lead to violence and sexual harassment and abused; They never use the toilet built by (Pheun Mit Charity);

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization		# of Inter	viewee	Results of the Focused Group Discussion
		Total	Female	Ethnic	
					Requests: increased waste price as now it is low (LAK300/Kg), more excavators to move/push the waste so they can easily short the waste, big space for sorting the waste and a safe space to park motorbike and motorbike with extended trailer and happy to pay fees (2000-5000LAK for security man to watch/protect their motorbike; request the excavator driver to provide signal or warning (horn), request for PPE. Request to pave the road. One lady requested for increased salary for her husband working as driver for VCOME.
11 August 2022	KM32 Landfill: Waste pickers and community waste center	60	33	3 Khmu	 Gender: there is no gender issues raised during the FGD as man and woman share opinions respect each other and make decision together for the important topic. Money or income is kept and managed by women or wives as they are more manageable and use money wisely than men. Human trafficking: no this issue during the FGD. SEA/SH and VAC: Two SH cases were reported to VCOME in the past 4 years ago. Both cases occurred at the resettlement center and related to drug and alcohol consumption but were solved. The first case was a man aged about 14 years old was going to rape his aunty aged about 40 years old but it was not successful as she called for help. Both were from same village (B. Nakhao) and

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization		# of Inter	viewee	Results of the Focused Group Discussion
		Total	Female	Ethnic	
					stayed in the same house at the resettlement center. VCOME sent this case to be solved at the village level based on the village system. The second case was a man about 22 years asked to buy medicine at one house and found that only a woman about 22 years stayed at the house and was going to rape her but was not successful as she called for help. VCOME investigated and gave a warning to the man that if he do again he will no longer stay and work at the landfill. There are no cases on VAC recorded. Recently, there are no SEA/SH cases reported to VCOME but they are issues related to alcohol consumption among men and VCOME separated those who created issues.
					• Potential for Increased Accidents: During the FGD conducted on 11 August 2022, waste picker said that there are minor accidents and injuries from excavator excavated the waste without signalling or warning.
					• Vulnerable and Poor Groups: There Once poor household: female leaded household (56 years old) with one daughter and two nephews ages about 4 and 5 years old playing in the landfill without wearing shoes. Mother and daughter are both working at the landfill and live in a house built in land owned by relative

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization		# of Inter	viewee	Results of the Focused Group Discussion
		Total	Female	Ethnic	
					nearby the landfill. During the FGD, the participants requested the EWMP to provide assistance for this poor and vulnerable household – if possible, request land and house with basis facilities. • Concerns and Opinions of the Local Communities: During the FGD, all participants supported the project development but they do not support to move the waste to other places. However, some of them said if the waste is moved new place they will move to the new place accordingly. All agreed that the EWMP will create positive impacts to their OHS and livelihood improvement if they still can access to the waste picking and selling and if they project can provide the following requests: - Construct more toilets and shelter at the landfill with clean water and basis facilities and happy to pay the fee for taking care toilet; - Health check at least one per year and first aid kits at the landfill; - More excavators to move/push the waste so they can easily short the waste and fire trucks for emergency cases;

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization		# of Inter	viewee	Results of the Focused Group Discussion
		Total	Female	Ethnic	
11 August 2022	Nahai Village (where the KM16 Transfer Station Located): only two women who are the shop owners as Village authorities was	2	2	All are Lao- Thai	 Big space for sorting the waste and a safe space to park motorbike and motorbike with extended trailer and happy to pay fees (2000-5000LAK for security man to watch/protect their motorbike; The excavator drivers to provide signal or warning (horn) and request for PPE; Pave the access road to the landfill; Request VCOME to increase the price buying the waste; Request for assistance for one poor and vulnerable household – if possible, request land and house with basis facilities. The results of the FGD in B. Nahai are summarized as below: Results: (i) Waste drop off from the waste trucks without collection (the access road has two sections, a 1km unpaved road and a 0.8 concrete road); (ii) Leachate spills along the road; and (ii) Before setting up of the existing waste transfer station, there was a promise of dust suppression (road watering). However, there was no such action for a long period of time; and (iv) There was a concern that increasing transportation will exacerbate these impacts.

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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

Date	Organization		# of Inter	viewee	Results of the Focused Group Discussion		
		Total	Female	Ethnic			
	not available due				Recommendations: Water the road to control dust suppression		
	to village works				during the dry conditions; improve the road conditions to prevent		
					waste drop off; and at the moment there is no road accident caused by		
					waste trucks but in the future the project should proper plan to deal		
					with road accident because the project shares access road with		
					villagers.		

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Annex 2c: List of Participants During the KIIs and FGDs

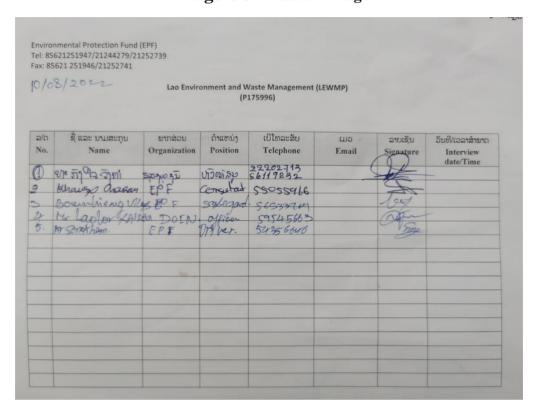
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A list of focal points joined the consultation meeting with waste pickers and villagers of Phasouk village



A list of participants from Naphasouk village

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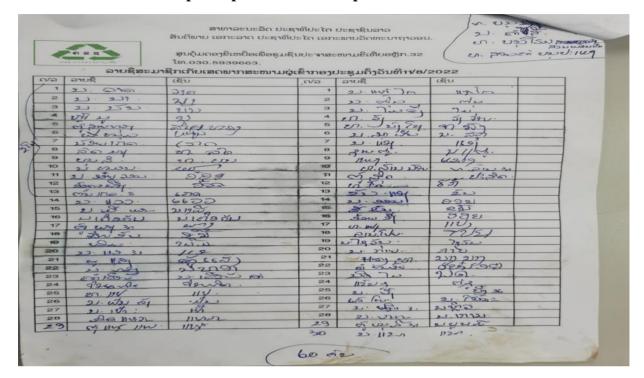
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Lao PDR Environmental and Waste Management Project (P175996)

A list of participants from waste pickers at Km32 landfill



A list of participants of focal points and informants from relevant organizations who joined the consultation meetings (see above table)

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ລ/ດ No.	ຊື່ ແລະ ນາມສະກຸນ Name	ພາກສ່ວນ Organization	ຕຳແຫນ່ງ Position	ເບີໂທລະສັບ Telephone	ເມວ Email	ລາຍເຊັນ Signature	ວັນທີ/ເວລາສຳພາດ Interview date/Time
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Annex 3: Estimated Total Provisional budget for the SEP (For further discussion with EPF; MPWT and MONRE)

No.	Description	Notes	Total (USD)	Remarks
I	SEP Implementation for C1,			
1	Implementation of SEP	Consultation, development and translation of communication materials in the ESMF	50,000	Lump sum
II	SEP Implementation for C3			
2	Implementation of SEP	Consultation, development and translation of communication materials on the ESMF	10,000	lump sum
	Estimated Budş	60,000		

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